A Message from the State Fire Marshal
Chief Daniel Berlant
May 2026



Welcome to the May 2026 edition of the CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal Newsletter!

May brings significant opportunities to highlight the vital work occurring across the fire and life safety community. This month, we recognize Building Safety Month and Wildfire Preparedness Week, two campaigns that reinforce the importance of prevention, readiness, and resilient communities. In this edition, we're pleased to share updates, resources, and activities taking place across the OSFM and our partners.

This month's newsletter features the following and more:

Employee Spotlight
Deputy State Fire Marshal Meg Edlund supports statewide fire and life safety by conducting inspections, reviewing plans, and helping communities understand and apply California's fire codes. She encourages future fire-prevention professionals to stay curious and emphasizes that strong building codes and everyday prevention actions make a measurable difference in public safety.

Building Safety Month
This year's Building Safety Month theme, Built to Last, highlights weekly topics ranging from home safety and building-safety professionals to preparedness, resilient codes, and accessible design. Follow OSFM's social media channels throughout May for tools, tips, and resources that promote safer, stronger communities.

Wildfire Preparedness Resources
The statewide Home Hardening and Defensible Space campaign and Wildfire Preparedness Week provide updated toolkits – available in English and Spanish—to support community outreach and wildfire readiness. By taking proactive steps, Californians can significantly improve their home's chance of surviving a wildfire while also helping protect their communities and first responders.

The CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) continues to lead with innovation, education, and forward-thinking public safety initiatives. Our work reflects a core mission: protecting people, property, and natural resources through sound policy, strategic partnerships, and community engagement.
Thank you for your continued dedication to California's fire-resilient future.
As always, have a fire-safe day!

Daniel Berlant
California State Fire Marshal