

SW/SC REGION EMS NEWS

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News You Can Use

- The **EMS Today/JEMS Conference and Expo** will take place **February 21-23, 2018 in Charlotte NC**. Go to <http://www.emstoday.com/index.html> for more information.
- The **Washington Fire Symposium Annual Conference** will take place on **February 24-28 in Yakima, WA**. Check out the jam-packed agenda and/or register at <https://connect.computility.com/ff/index.php>
- **Paramedic Lecture Series 2018** will take place **March 16-18 in Leavenworth, WA**. Go to <http://conta.cc/2EgC84Y> for more information or to register.
- The **West Region EMS Conference** will take place on **March 23-25 in Ocean Shores, WA**. Go to <http://www.wrems.com/conf.html> for more information.
- The **2018 Northwest Rural Health Association's Annual Conference** will take place on **March 26-28, 2018 in Spokane, WA**. For more information, go to <http://depts.washington.edu/uwconf/wordpress/nwrhc/>
- A **NAEMSE Instructor 1 Course** will be offered on **April 6-8 in Wenatchee, WA**. This course is geared towards providers who wish to become an SEI. Go to <http://bit.ly/2njhIFO> for more information.
- The **Inland Northwest Trauma Conference** will take place **April 23 in Spokane, WA**. Go to <https://washington.providence.org/events/phc/inland-northwest-trauma-conference/> for more information or to register.
- Save the date for the **2018 Traffic Safety Conference** hosted by the WTSC. The conference will be held **April 24-26 in Kennewick, WA**. More info about the conference can be found at <http://wtsc.wa.gov/2018tsc/>
- **Two National Child Passenger Safety Certification classes will be coming up in the SW/SC Regions**. A class will be held on March 7 in Kennewick and a class will be offered on March 14 in Longview which will certify participants to install child passenger safety seats. Go to <http://cert.safekids.org/> for more info or to register.
- The Northwest Regional Training Center will be offering an **EMT Refresher course on March 23-25 in Vancouver, WA**. For more information or to register, go to www.nwrhc.org
- The WSDOT is offering grants for **Pedestrian and Bicycle Program and the Safe Routes to School Program**. All public agencies are eligible to apply. Applications for the Safe Routes to School Program are due on April 27th, 2018 and applications for Pedestrian and Bicycle Program are due May 11th, 2018. Go to <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/SafeRoutes/CallForProjects.htm> for more information.
- The **Washington State Archives is offering a local records grant program** to provide funding for agencies to digitize and store their records. Go to <http://bit.ly/2FoFK48> for more info. Hurry, applications close February 28!

EMS & Trauma Council Calendar: February 2018

- February 1: Yakima County EMS Council meeting, 1:30pm
- February 1: Walla Walla County EMS Council meeting, 6pm
- February 5: Mid Columbia EMS Council meeting, 1:30pm
- February 6: Columbia County EMS Council meeting, 7pm
- February 7: Cowlitz County EMS Council meeting, 10am
- February 8: Kittitas County EMS Council meeting, 7pm

Fatigue In EMS

On January 11, 2018, the National Association of State EMS Officials released their Fatigue in EMS Risk Management Guidelines as part of their Fatigue in EMS Project. According to the NASEMSO, “Workplace fatigue is a common complaint among shift workers. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel work shifts and deliver emergent health care to the acutely ill and injured on the roadside, in patients’ homes, and other environments. They must deliver this care while under significant time pressure and stress. Fatigue is a threat that is often overlooked by EMS leadership and personnel as “just part of the job”. NASEMSO has partnered with a team led by University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine scientists to develop new fatigue guidelines...to mitigate the effects of fatigue with recommendations based on a comprehensive evaluation of the best available evidence...”

Evidence Based Guidelines for Fatigue Risk Management in Emergency Medical Services are now available online at www.nasemso.org/Projects/Fatigue-in-EMS/index.asp This resource page offers Fatigue Guidelines Overview, Fatigue Guidelines Infographic, a webinar on ‘Fatigue Risk Guidelines’, as well as links to several evidence-based studies on fatigue in prehospital emergency care.

In the News

- The flu is still widespread around the state and around the country. The CDC’s comprehensive influenza web page can be found at www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm and includes everything from weekly influenza surveillance reports and information for healthcare providers to flu activity maps and information for the public on preventing the spread of the virus. A similar page that focuses on the state of Washington can be found at www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/IllnessandDisease/Flu
- The opioid epidemic is, of course, still in the news. There have been several bills in the legislature about this crisis (<http://bit.ly/2DIVGlj>), the CDC has a webpage dedicated to this topic (<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/index.html>), as does the Washington State Department of Health (<http://bit.ly/2FnBMsx>).
- A recent article outlines some of the initial lessons learned from the recent Amtrak derailment and the emergency response by both on-scene and hospital providers. Check it out at <http://bit.ly/2Fo9LBa>
- EMS Week will take place in May. Now is a great time to start planning for this event. There are several planning resources available online including: ACEP (www.acep.org/emsweek), NAEMT (www.naemt.org/initiatives/ems-week), and EMS Strong (www.emsstrong.org/ems-week).