This is the time of year when we are supposed to slow down & catch up but not this summer. This has been one of our busiest summers of all time and I want to thank everyone.

We will be offering two Block 1s of training this fall. Both Blocks will meet Tuesdays/Thursdays. The first block will start October 7 in the Lakes area. The second block will be in Norman County starting November 11. Information will be mailed very soon.

The open enrollment classes in Ottertail/Becker county and Norman/Clay county are still being offered. We cancelled the July classes (NFA—PICO in Vergas & RIT in Halstad) and the Leadership III class scheduled to begin August 4 in Sabin due to low enrollment. I think we’ve leaned not to hold open enrollment classes during the summer months. We will see if we receive enough enrollment for the classes scheduled for the end of August, September & October and then decide if this is a good way to offer courses.

The Fire Advisory Board will be meeting on August 28 in Detroit Lakes. The meeting starts at 7 pm on the MSCTC campus. We will be discussing the new HazMat Ops Block along with class ideas for the Mahnomen & Moorhead Fire Schools. If you have class ideas for the fire schools or comments regarding the HazMat Ops block of training, please come to the meeting or e-mail Denice by August 27th.

Fire Training Board Update: They have hired an Executive Director and hope things will start moving along after a slow summer. The Board took a huge cut in dollars (2 million) that would be available in the last legislative session and will need everyone’s help to make sure that this does not become a trend. Contact your representatives and Senators to let them know how important these dollars are for fire training in the state.

There are two great classes coming to the state: “The Art of Reading Smoke” presented by Dave Dodson will be held October 25 in Perham. Contact Alexandria Technical College at 888-234-1313 for more information. “Fire Ground Academy 101” presented by John Mittendorf will be held November 22 in Willmar. Contact Ridgewater College at 800-722-1151 for more information.

Instructor I Review classes will be offered this fall with the State Certification Board coming in soon after the class to give the test. This is a new requirement of the Fire Training Board for departments to be eligible for re-imbursement. The text used is IFSTA Fire & Emergency Services Instructor—7th Edition. The review class can be 12-24 hours in length depending on the preparation of the students.

REMEMBER: The Feds are requiring that IS-300 & IS-400 are done by October 1. For more information, contact Rick or your County Emergency Manager.

Attached is the first training class that you can do at your department. It is just a simple, easy class than can be presented in less than an hour.

AREA DEPARTMENT NEWS

Moorhead Fire Department will be holding their 11th Annual MDA golf tournament September 15 at the Meadows Golf course in Moorhead. We have had departments from throughout the state attend and would like to have additional departments. For more information, contact Rick Loveland at mfd@arvig.net or 701-261-5363.

If you have any other news you would like included in the next newsletter, please send the information to Denice.