

## Training Matters

### Training Qualifications Being Reviewed

*(Trainer Assessor Endorsement Currency)*

DFES have advised the current endorsements of Trainer Assessors across all regions and services are being reviewed, to ensure that training and assessment skills are being maintained.

As part of this process, any Trainer Assessor who has not delivered a course in their endorsed products in the last two years, (TRKs), has been highlighted to the regions by the Academy.

The regions have been asked to review the information and take one of the following actions:

- ▶ Advise the Academy if the information contained in the report is incorrect, and provide evidence that shows the TA has delivered in the last two years.
- ▶ Provide a plan to maintain the currency of the highlighted Trainer Assessors by booking them to deliver a course in the upcoming 12 months.
- ▶ Advise the Academy to remove the endorsement if the TA is either no longer available or required.

**Don't panic**, if you are an endorsed Trainer Assessor who is identified as at risk of losing currency, your region will work with you to ensure that you have the opportunity to maintain your currency by delivering on a course during 2018.

### Maintenance and Continuation Training Activities

DFES advise maintenance and continuation training activities are considered important in maintaining your subject matter skills and knowledge, but they are not sufficient on their own, to maintain training and assessment currency.

This is because these activities do not allow you to maintain your assessment skills, work with groups of unfamiliar students or maintain an understanding of how the Trainer Assessor Endorsement Issues components of the course fit together as a whole (course flow).

### HF Radio Course

A course is currently being developed and should be available sometime in the near future.

### Computers/Tablets Issues for Units

We have discussed this at length with various DFES departments and have not received satisfactory explanations or answers. Keep watching this space as we do not accept the answers given, especially in view of the requirements being placed on Units to provide information via electronic means.

### Fridges in Vehicles

DFES advise new vehicles may come with a portable fridge, but fridges will not be fitted retrospectively.

We have discussed this at length with various DFES departments and have not received satisfactory explanations or answers.

Keep watching this space as we do not accept the answers given.

### Photovoltaic Trailer

The DFES Academy has a trailer which can be used as a training aid for solar panels on a roof etc situations.

In the past a licensed electrician was required to assemble the trailer.

The Academy has now modified the trailer, and this is no longer the case.

Contact the Academy to book this excellent training tool.

### TA's Without WTA not Appearing in DFES TNA Report

Trainer/Assessors who have not done the WTA course, and who were accredited prior to its release, did not appear on the Academy TNA Report.

This has now been rectified, and they do appear.

## Charity and Taxation Status

DFES has been working with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC), to determine the charity status of SES Units.

The ACNC has confirmed units are not eligible for charity status as they are classified as government entities under their legislation.

DFES is working closely with the Australian Taxation Office to preserve existing taxation concessions including income tax exemptions. DFES has sent letters to all SES Units and the Association.

Further information can be obtained from the Volunteer Portal or by contacting Mr Anthony Somes, Senior Taxation Officer by emailing [Tax@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:Tax@dfes.wa.gov.au) or 9395 9502.

## Wear Orange Wednesday – WOW Day

*Save the Date – 23rd May 2018*

WOW Day is celebrated each year by DFES and the SES Volunteers Association.

This year's WOW Day campaign will be held on May 23rd.

This national day of support for the SES gives the public an opportunity to say thank you to SES Volunteers by wearing something orange.

WOW Day also provides an opportunity for SES Units to promote their unit through media coverage.

Units are therefore encouraged to think about any possible stories which could generate an interest for the media.

All metropolitan SES Volunteers will be invited to a BBQ at the Gosnells SES Unit from 7.00 to 9.00 pm on 23rd May.

An official invitation will be issued in the coming months.

***KEEP this day and time FREE***

## National Volunteer Week 21 – 27 May 2018

National Volunteer Week celebrates Volunteering in Emergency Services and recognises the highly valued contribution Volunteers make to their communities.

Volunteers are encouraged to nominate someone they know in one of the following categories:

- ▶ *WA Volunteer of the Year*
- ▶ *WA Youth Volunteer of the Year (18-30 years)*
- ▶ *WA Lifetime Contribution to Volunteering*
- ▶ *WA Volunteer for Multicultural Communities Award*
- ▶ *WA Excellence in Volunteer Management*
- ▶ *WA Volunteer for Multicultural Communities Award*
- ▶ *WA People's Choice 'Spirit of Volunteering Award*
- ▶ *WA Community Volunteer Organisation of the Year*

Nominate on-line:

<https://awards.volunteeringwa.org.au/nominate-someone>

Nominations for the above Awards close 5.00 pm 9 March 2018

▶ *Gold Medallion for Exceptional Bravery*  
Awarded to any person who performs a conspicuous and selfless act of exceptional bravery in circumstances of extreme peril.

- ▶ *Silver Medallion for Bravery – Emergency Services Award*

Any member or members of a recognised Emergency Services Responses Unit who, in the fulfilment of their duties, performs a conspicuous and selfless act of bravery on the West Australian coast.

Nominations on-line:

<https://www.coastalbraveryawards.com.au/>

Nominations close 31st March 2018

## National Volunteer Week 2018 Celebration Grants

These grants can provide an opportunity for units to participate in the annual national celebration of Australia's extraordinary volunteers.

Applications on-line:

<https://volunteeringwa.org.au/training--events/national-volunteer-week/nvw-grants>

Applications close 1st March 2018

## How to Keep Informed

Don't forget we have a website which keeps you informed of what is happening across the state in SES land.

We also have "the App".

And also, if you would like our newsletters, other relevant information etc forwarded direct to your email, just contact Bella at the office, and let her know your details.

***From your SESVA team***