



**FORSYTHCOUNTY**  
Department of Communications  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FORSYTH COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN  
2011 FIRE/EMS SAFETY, HEALTH AND SURVIVAL WEEK**

*Focus of week is safety and health*

**FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia** – The Forsyth County Fire Department will participate in the 2011 Fire/EMS Safety, Health and Survival Week (Safety Week) during the week of June 19-25, 2011. Safety Week is an event sponsored by the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF).

This annual event aims to improve firefighter safety and health to give all a better chance of survival in emergencies and in the long-term. Fire departments across the United States and Canada will take time during the week to go over the messages and resources that will help achieve that goal.

“The Forsyth County Fire Department is looking forward to participating in Safety Week again this year,” said Captain Jason Shivers. “During Safety Week, all Forsyth County firefighters will be training on the objectives outlined by the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the International Association of Fire Fighters. It is important to note, however, that our daily response will in no way be impacted. Responding to the citizens’ request for assistance will, of course, remain job number one.”

The theme for Safety Week this year is “*Surviving the Fire Ground: Fire Fighter, Fire Officer & Command Preparedness,*” which encourages all fire/EMS personnel to focus on survival training and education. It is critical for fire fighters to focus on their own survival on the fire ground. There is no other call more challenging to fire ground operations than a mayday call - the unthinkable moment when a firefighter’s personal safety is in imminent danger. Firefighter fatality data compiled by the United States Fire

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Administration has shown that fire fighters 'becoming trapped and disoriented represent the largest portion of structural fire ground fatalities.'

"Safety is, without question, a priority of the Fire Department," Fire Chief Danny Bowman said. "We recognize that our troops must operate safely in order to properly be able to help those who are in need during times of emergency."

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