



“Pow Wow 2026”

Sunday, September 13, 2026

At Constellation Midwest Fire Training Academy
Morris, Illinois

CLASS 1—BASIC FIREMANSHIP

This course will cover **Basic Skills Training** in Fire Safety, Fire Behavior, SCBA's, Ladders, Hose Handling Techniques and Live Fire Behavior/Flashover Simulator. Participants will be involved in **hands-on** training activities in all of the above topics. Providing training opportunities for those who have completed Basic Firefighter. Giving an opportunity to obtain the OSFM practical objectives that may not be offered by their local fire departments. All participants will need to be outfitted with **NFPA Approved** full protective clothing, including hoods & Positive Pressure SCBA with spare bottle. **FACIAL HAIR MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH 29CFR1910.134.**

NOTE: SCBA bottles must have current hydrostatic test dates. South Side Fools plus Constellation Midwest Fire Training Academy will be instructors.
LIMITED TO 25.

CLASS 2 — BASIC AUTO EXTRICATION

This course provides basic hands-on training for fire and rescue personnel in size-up, stabilization, hazard control, patient access, disentanglement, and scene control techniques at automobile accidents involving one or two vehicles remaining on its wheels, or on its side, or on its roof. Emphasis is placed on proper choice, placement and use of equipment. From hand tools such as bars and hack saws, to electric tools such as nibblers and reciprocal saws, to air powered tools like air chisels and impact wrenches, to heavy hydraulic tools, stabilizers and lift bags.

NOTE: Protective equipment required: Helmet, fire or safety boots, eye protection, gloves, coveralls or turn out gear.

Instructed by: IFSI

LIMITED TO 25 STUDENTS. EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS

CLASS 3 — BASIC FORCIBLE ENTRY

This course is designed to provide firefighters with the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary to gain access to structures quickly, efficiently and safely during emergency operations. Students will learn the principles of forcible entry, including size-up considerations, door construction, tool selection, and tactical decision making.

CLASSROOM PORTION - slideshow presentation covering: Forcible entry size-up considerations, forcible entry tools and their applications, safety considerations and firefighter survival & various forcible entry techniques for residential & commercial occupancies. **HANDS ON PRACTICAL PORTION** - Conventional forcible entry techniques using hand tools, limited visibility forcible entry techniques, proper use and operation of forcible entry power saws, cutting and accessing sectional overhead garage doors, tool control, coordination, and firefighter positioning, brief introduction to thru-the-lock forcible entry & team-based forcible entry scenarios.

NOTE: Basic Fire Protection Equipment Required.
LIMITED TO 25.

Instructed by: Deputy Chief Dave Wiechen - Morris Fire Protection & Ambulance District

CLASS 4 — FIREFIGHTER STRATEGIES FOR SOLAR AND BATTERY-RELATED INCIDENTS

The increasing installation of solar panels & battery storage systems in communities across the world has significantly impacted firefighting operations. Traditional strategies & tactics must evolve to address the unique hazards presented by this rapidly expanding technology.

This course provides firefighters with the updated training necessary to safely & effectively mitigate incidents involving: scooters & e-bikes, electric vehicles, Large-scale battery energy storage systems, solar panel farms, residential & commercial structure fires involving photovoltaic systems & energy storage systems.

Includes detailed Standard Operating Guidelines to assist departments in developing customized response plans. These SOGs will be provided as editable documents after the course, allowing departments to tailor them to their specific operational needs and response capabilities.

Instructed by: Captain Richard Birt, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue

Location of the School

Constellation Midwest Fire Training Academy
4200 E. Pine Bluff Road
Morris, Illinois
(Behind the old Collins Generating Station)

From Morris: take Pine Bluff Road east approximately 4 1/2 miles. Turn North onto Midwest Generating Collins Station property, following the drive Constellation Fire Training sign. Continue on drive to the training academy, east of the main parking.

From I-55: get off at Exit 240. This is Lorenzo Road, go 4 miles west to the 4 way stop at Dresden Road. Continue west approximately 2 1/2 miles. Turn North onto Midwest Generating Collins Station property, following the drive Constellation Fire Training sign. Continue on drive to the training academy, east of the main parking.

Information:

Check in time: 7:30 A.M. Classes start: 8:00 A.M.

If there are any questions about directions, registration or the “Pow Wow 2026” classes, you can call Charlie Boyd 815-458-2000.

Advance Registration:

We would like everyone to register early to get into the limited enrollment classes that are being offered. These classes are offered on a first come-first serve basis.

Please note that all participants must be of age 18 or older. Registration will be open to all Fire & Emergency Personnel. The fee is \$50 per student. Lunch is included. Registration forms will be available through local Fire Departments or call Charlie Boyd 815-458-2000. Make checks payable to: Chief Shabbona Firefighter's Association. Mail registration form & payment to: “Pow Wow 2026”, P.O. Box 309, Braidwood, IL 60408. **Registrations due no later than September 7, 2026. Sorry, no refunds will be given.** A fellow department member can be a replacement if someone is unable to attend class.

On behalf of the “Pow Wow 2026” Committee, we hope to see you at our Firefighter Training School. A special thanks to Constellation Midwest Fire Training Academy & everyone who has made this event possible.

CHIEF SHABBONA FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION, INC. M E M B E R S

Braceville, Braidwood, Coal City, Channahon, Dwight, Dwight EMS, Essex, East Joliet, Elwood, Lyondell, Gardner, Grundy County EMA, Lisbon Seward, MVK Ambulance, Mazon, Minooka, Morris, Newark, Odell, Rockdale, Seneca, South Wilmington, Verona-Kinsman, Wilmington.

Associate Members: 1-800-Board Up, Serv Pro