



A return engagement of

Investigating Residential Dryer Fires

An in-lab program for fire investigators, engineers and subrogation specialists.

One session only! Sign up now – Class size is limited to 48 participants.

April 10-12, 2012

Optional testing toward CFI certification available (22 hours)
along with continuing education credits.

Our 2012 session – expanded to include a third day – is intended to provide you with in-depth learning about residential clothes dryer fires.

We'll discuss how dryers work, the relationship of components, dryer cycles, the importance of the timer, limits, thermostats and centrifugal switches, gas-burner safety features, air movement through a dryer, anticipated failure modes and case studies. We'll also review how gas and electric dryers differ and the role of automatic resetting of high limits.

Other topics include:

- Lint, its role and where it comes from
- What else, besides lint, can cause dryer fires
- Which manufacturers make what brands
- Where various components are located on different manufacturers' dryers
- How those components work and how they can fail
- Identifying a dryer manufacturer after the appliance is completely burned
- Information to obtain from the user
- Why the composition of the last load can be important
- High resistance connections and glowing connections
- Arc tracking and arcing-through-conduit demonstrations
- Differences between arcing and short-circuiting

- Spontaneous combustion issues
- Dryer instructions and warnings, including some inadequate ones.

In addition, you'll:

- Watch several dryers burn and see numerous dryers partially disassembled to examine their differences.
- Explore the numerous ways a dryer can have a fire, as well as what role lint plays. We'll look at many dryer fire cases, their determinations and what makes them useful for studies.
- Learn more about venting: Do fires occur in vents? What does a blocked vent really do? And, what are venting requirements?
- Take home useful information about interviewing dryer users, dryer fire-scene checklists, a manufacturer identification guide and dryer exam checklists.

“Investigating Residential Dryer Fires” will be held on-site at Fire Findings Laboratories testing facility, 2026 Plaza Drive, Benton Harbor, Michigan, 49022.

Just 40 minutes from South Bend (Indiana) or Kalamazoo (Michigan) airports and 2 hours from Chicago airports. St. Joseph/Benton Harbor is located along the southern shores of Lake Michigan — a gorgeous area to visit – and home of the 2012 and 2014 Senior PGA Championships.

Tuition is **\$795** per person for the two-day session.

Background

“Investigating Residential Dryer Fires,” is a highly focused educational experience revolving around the know-how of dryer fire experts, background information obtained from *Fire Findings*’ extensive testing and examinations of approximately 1,000 dryers. Participants will also share their considerable experience with one another.

Dryer fires are all-too-common events and lint doesn’t cause all of them. We’ve created this specialized class to share knowledge that can help other investigators pinpoint the many causes of dryer fires.

You’ll have the opportunity to see a lot of dryers in a lab setting where you can thoroughly explore their potential for fire causation. We hope the knowledge you gain will be the equivalent to many burned dryer exams.

This is the first time in four years we’re conducting this session and it could very well be another four years before it’s scheduled again. *So, don’t miss out: Mark April 10-12, 2012 on your calendar now.*

Your \$795 tuition also includes handouts and worksheets. Optional test credits toward CFI certification are also available, along with continuing education credits.

About your instructors

Chemist **John P. Machnicki**, director of Travelers Loss Prevention and Engineering Laboratory, Windsor, Connecticut, will explain spontaneous heating and collecting samples for analysis and discuss lint issues. Machnicki has spent the last 20 years as a fire origin and cause investigator and has testified as an expert witness on many topics, including flammable liquid analysis, spontaneous combustion and product failures.

Fire Findings’ **Jack L. Sanderson** is an appliance failures’ expert and certified fire investigator (CFI). He will speak on the differences in various manufacturers’ residential dryers, how they can lead to different types of fires and why some appliances are more fire-prone than others. He’ll also discuss techniques for examining dryers.

Joining John and Jack will be **Nathan P. Dwyer**, *Fire Findings*’ electrical expert. Nathan is a CFI specializing in electrical fire investigation and fire-involved appliance analysis. He has been a speaker at various IAAI conferences and is an excellent presenter who makes difficult subjects understandable. He will explain electrical failures and conduct live, in-the-classroom demonstrations.

Settle in and make yourself at home

All three days start with a deluxe continental breakfast at 8 a.m. and include snacks and sodas anytime. Lunch provided the last day. Sessions start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. the first and second days. The seminar ends promptly at 2 p.m. the final day. Testing and presentation of certificates conclude the session.

Who should attend?

- ✓ In-the-field fire investigators
- ✓ Fire and police department investigators
- ✓ Insurance subrogation specialists and engineers responsible for dryer examinations.

This class will provide in-depth knowledge for investigators, subrogation specialists and others who need to better understand how residential gas and electric dryers work, fail and cause fires, as well as assist them in avoiding litigation pitfalls.

Why attend?

“Investigating Residential Dryer Fires” will include demonstrations of fire-causing failures in a laboratory setting.

The seminar will broaden your understanding of dryer fires and help you establish the causes of these commonly occurring fires.

What you get

Your \$795 tuition to the 2012 *Fire Findings*' seminar, "Investigating Residential Dryer Fires," includes:

- ✓ 3 days of intensive, in-lab, hands-on instruction from top experts in the field
- ✓ Live demonstrations
- ✓ Useful handouts, including worksheets for interviewing dryer users, checklists for conducting lab exams and tips for identifying manufacturers
- ✓ Deluxe continental breakfasts all days; snacks and sodas anytime and lunch the third day
- ✓ Answers to your questions about investigating dryer fires
- ✓ A certificate recognizing your participation
- ✓ Optional CFI testing and CEUs available.

Easy Registration for 'Residential Dryer Fires' One session only: April 10-12, 2012



Fax

your completed enrollment and credit card or government voucher number to 269-925-2204.



Phone

for information and openings, 269-925-2200.



Mail

*this completed enrollment to:
Fire Findings LLC
2026 Plaza Drive
Benton Harbor, MI 49022-2212.*

Who will attend?

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Street _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Ph _____ FAX _____ E-mail _____

Years of experience in fire investigation _____

Number of hours of origin/cause investigation classes _____

Brief description of your present career responsibilities _____

How do you prefer to pay your tuition?

Check enclosed Government voucher or purchase order enclosed
Please make payable to Fire Findings, L.L.C. (Fed ID # is 38-328-2454)

Bill my credit card (*check one*) MasterCard Visa Discover

Card # _____ Code _____ Exp. date _____
(3-digit security code on the back of your card)

Cardholder name (*please print*) _____

Cardholder signature _____

Hurry! The dryer fires class is limited to the first 48 registrants.

For more information and seminar openings, call us at (269) 925-2200, e-mail info@firefindings.com or fax (269) 925-2204. ****Note:** Please check seminar availability before making hotel, auto or flight arrangements.

Special lodging rates are available.

Call the *Holiday Inn Express - Benton Harbor* at (269) 927-4599 for a special rate of \$74 per night for double or king rooms. King leisure suites with pull-out sofa bed, microwave and refrigerator are \$94 per night. Add 8% tax. Free expanded continental breakfast and indoor pool and spa on site. This is a "first-come, first-serve" special rate, so make your reservations early. To get this rate, mention Fire Findings when making a reservation.

For a free visitor information packet and area maps, call the Southwestern Michigan Tourist Council at (269) 925-6301.