



2026 Annual Symposium: A Successful Gathering for Firefighter Health & Safety



“It was truly impressive to see our partners recognize the Conservancy as a leader in firefighter health and safety. The caliber of speakers, presentations, and hands-on demonstrations showcasing the Conservancy’s protocols was outstanding, and CAL FIRE’s attendance was crucial—it was clear they are fully engaged with and supportive of our research.”

-Curtis Brown, Executive Director

Held at the Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center in Los Angeles, the symposium highlighted critical issues facing the fire service, including occupational exposure, firefighter lung health, respiratory protection, decontamination practices, early detection, and strategies to reduce long-term health risks.

The program featured expert presentations, panel discussions, live demonstrations, and firefighter lung health screenings, creating an opportunity to connect emerging research with practical solutions that can be implemented in the field.

Key partners and participating organizations included the **University of Arizona, NC State University, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Cal/OSHA, Cedars-Sinai, AstraZeneca, Breathe Southern California, and CAL FIRE Health and Safety.**

The symposium reinforced the Wildfire Conservancy’s mission to provide the scientific foundation needed to improve firefighter health and safety, especially for those serving in wildland and wildland-urban interface environments.

The full symposium was recorded, and video recordings of the presentations and discussions will be available. Please see our website or contact the following email:
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