

F.I.R.E. 2019 – Green Sand Workshop

FRI., May 17, 9AM – 5PM

Location: Lawler Foundry

This workshop is intended to acquaint foundry students with the benefits and limitations of green sand by using specific tools and techniques to make green sand molds. Students are expected to have some foundry molding experience, but we can accommodate beginners to experts.

We will begin with a brief description of the various types of green sand and how it's made. All students will be taken through the steps of making a simple mold of a light switch cover that can be individually embellished. These first molds will be poured in aluminum so you can see what to expect in detail and finish. For the rest of the workshop, students will make molds of their choosing with instructors available to guide their work. These can be poured in aluminum, bronze, or iron.

Students may use available patterns (book ends, bottle openers, etc.) but they are encouraged to bring their own. Patterns should have clear parting lines with draft and must be made from a rigid material (wood, metal, plastic, etc.) with a smooth finish. High relief and fine details are fine, but materials like unfinished wood are discouraged because sand will stick to the rough surface.

With some exceptions, green sand molds are made in "tight flasks." The Lawler Foundry has a good supply of 5" x 5", 2" over 2" flasks and 10" x 10", 3" - 4" over 3"-4" flasks available. Some other smaller and larger flasks are on hand. We will try to accommodate all needs, but students are asked to keep patterns to a size that can fit in these flasks – leaving at least ½" clearance from the edges of the flasks. If you have questions about something you would like to try as a pattern, please contact us before the workshop so we can advise you.

The workshop fee includes a \$50 allowance for materials. The conference material fees are \$0.12/lb. for green sand (returned after casting), \$4.50/lb. for aluminum, \$6.50/lb. for bronze, and \$0.50/lb. for iron (metal fees are for finished castings, not total weight poured). If you cast iron, you must break it yourself.

For questions concerning this workshop, please contact the lead instructor, Bob Rogers, at bobr58@bellsouth.net. You may also call or text (901) 508-7429.

We look forward to seeing you at F.I.R.E. 2019!