

Family Safety



Activity Booklet



**Keep kids safe
from burns and scalds.
Have a kid-free zone of
at least 3 feet (1 metre)
around hot things
in the kitchen.**

**Learn how to keep
your family safe
at fpw.org!**

STAY OUT OF THE 36" (1 Metre) KID-FREE ZONE!



Angelo "Skip" Saviano
Village President
Gina Pesko
Village Clerk
Paul A. Volpe
Village Manager
Michael Durkin
Village Attorney

Trustees
Alan T. Kaminski
Jeff Sargent
Angela Stranges
Anthony Del Santo
Angelo J. Lollino
Jonathan L. Zivojnovic

Dear Friends:

As Village President, I am proud to say the members of the Elmwood Park Public Safety workforce are well staffed professionally trained individuals. They are here for the safety and protection of the residents in Elmwood Park and your wellbeing is their primary concern. The Elmwood Park Fire Department is prepared to handle any emergency and they are just a phone call away. With this in mind, as residents of Elmwood Park, you should take security measures seriously and talk to your family members about safety. Be sure to always keep fresh batteries in smoke detectors and have an exit strategy in place should there ever be a need to leave in an emergency situation.

Working together to keep everyone safe is always our common goal.

Very truly yours,

*Angelo "Skip" Saviano
Village President*



Elmwood Park Fire Department
7 Conti Parkway
708 453-2600

Dear Friends,

Every year the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) sets aside the month of October to recognize fire safety across the country. This is known nationally as Fire Prevention Month. The goal is to instill good fire safety practices for our children in school beginning at a very early age. We strive to teach the students to know very early how dangerous fires can be, what they can do to prevent them, and most importantly, what to do in the case of a fire in their home.

The 2020 fire prevention month theme is “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!™”. This year we work to educate everyone about the simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves, and those around them, safe in the kitchen. No matter if your child is at home or at school, they need to have an escape route from any structure they may be in. At school, our educators provide students with an escape route through mandatory and routine fire drills. At home parents or guardians should practice an escape routes from their house, as well as reinforcing safe cooking practices in the kitchen.

During Fire Prevention Month the Elmwood Park Fire Department, much like our schools, will work virtually to visit our elementary school students to reinforce our theme, as well as several other safety tips for use in and around the house. Although this is Fire Prevention Month, the fire department education efforts do not stop there. The Elmwood Park Fire Department takes great pride in advocating for Fire and Life Safety Education throughout the entire year.

Please enjoy the fun activities in the pages to follow with your child. There is information and activities that may be helpful for adults as well. This packet will be available throughout the year, and will even have updates to go along with seasonal conditions. And remember,

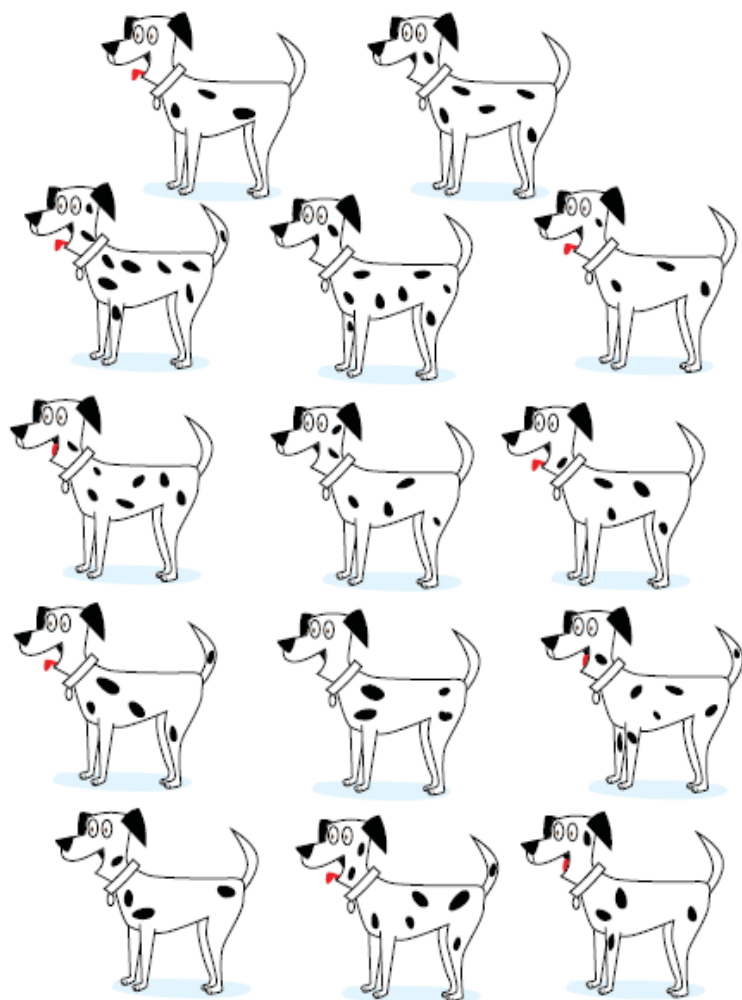
“Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!”

Sincerely,

Michael Terzo

Fire Chief

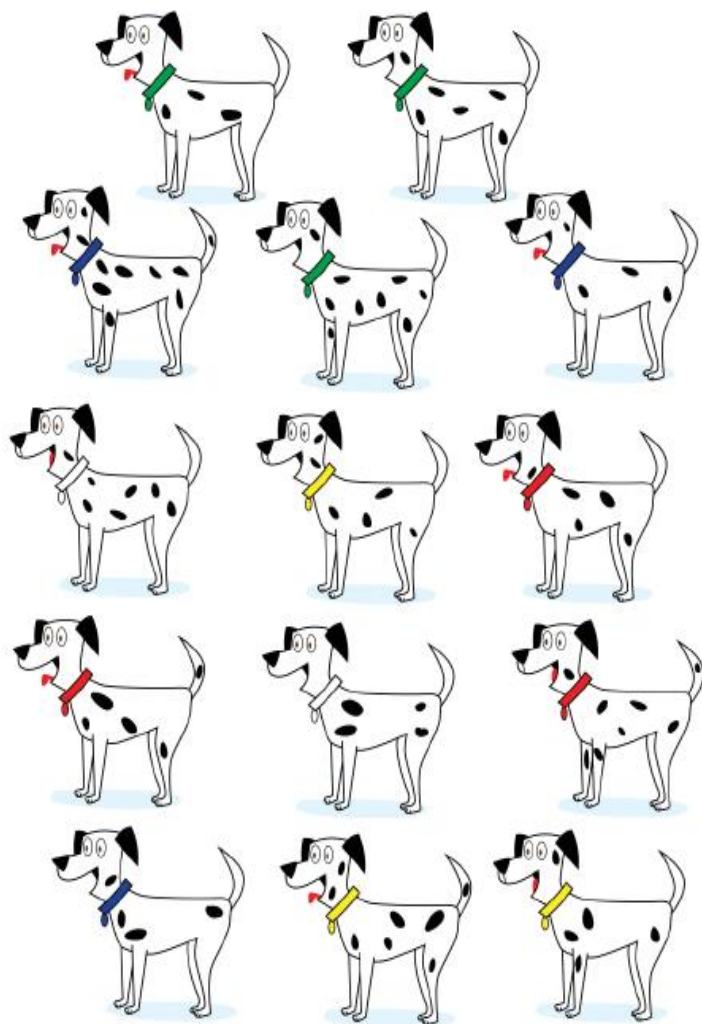
Directions: There are four trios of Dalmatian fire dogs whose spots add up to 18. Can you find each set of three dogs? Use markers or crayons to color matching collars for each trio of dogs. How many dogs are left over?



THE NAME AND IMAGE OF SPARKY ARE TRADEMARKS OF THE NFPA.

Answer Key

There are 2 dogs left over



Word Scramble

Unscramble the words below:



1. eirf tfsaye _____
2. yarksp _____
3. komse mraal _____
4. frei kctur _____
5. chares nda ceuser gdo _____
6. srien _____
7. rife pacsee lpna _____
8. siedtou eegtnim aclpe _____
9. komse mraal ttabreeis _____
10. nirpslekr metssy _____
11. otw yaws tuo _____
12. ierf paesce _____
13. rrefieghfti _____
14. rife lldri _____

Word Scramble Answer Key

1. fire safety
2. sparky
3. smoke alarm
4. fire truck
5. search and rescue dog
6. siren
7. fire escape plan
8. outside meeting place
9. smoke alarm batteries
10. sprinkler system
11. two ways out
12. fire escape
13. firefighter
14. fire drill



How to Plan a Fire Safety Meeting!

Having a home fire escape plan is super important! If your family doesn't have one, make sure you take the lead and plan one today. All it takes is 6 easy steps to keep you and your family safe from fire!

- 1. Set a Date!** Gather all of your family members together for a family fire safety meeting. Pick a good time, like a week-end afternoon when everyone can pay attention.
- 2. Make a map!** Work with your family to draw a map of your home. You can walk from room to room with your mom and dad and sketch out the floor plan. Make sure you include all the doors and windows in each room.
- 3. Find escape routes!** Find 2 ways out of each room. The first could be a door and the second a window. Mark them clearly on your floor plan with a 1 and 2 in every room.
- 4. Pick a meeting place!** Decide on a family meeting place out in front of your house where everyone can gather if there is ever a fire. Good spots include a large tree in your front yard, a lamppost or a neighbor's house.



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How to Plan a Fire Safety Meeting!

- 5. Test your smoke alarms!** Ask a grownup to help you press the “test” button on all the smoke alarms in your home to make sure they are all in good, working condition. Your smoke alarms should be tested every month and the batteries should be changed out once a year (or any time they start beeping to let you know their batteries are low).
- 6. Practice, practice, practice!** After your family has a great fire safety plan in place, practice a fire drill. Pretend there is a fire, use one of your escape routes to get out of the home and meet your family out in front at your family meeting place. And make sure your family repeats the drill at least every 6 months so it stays fresh in everyone's heads!



That's it! Now pat yourself on the back for being a **Superhero Alien Firefighter like Jack** and saving the day!

How to Plan a Fire Safety Meeting!

Fire Escape Plan Checklist

- ✓ Hold a family fire safety meeting!
- ✓ Draw a floor plan of your home!
- ✓ Find 2 escape routes from each room, mark them on your floor plan!
- ✓ Pick an outside meeting place!
- ✓ Test your smoke alarms every month!
- ✓ Change your smoke alarm batteries once a year!
- ✓ Practice your fire safety plan every 6 months!



Choose Your Outside Meeting Place

Name: _____

Directions: Your family should always choose an Outside Meeting Place where you will all meet when the smoke alarm sounds. A good Outside Meeting Place is far enough from your house to be safe, and it stays in one place! Circle the good choices for an Outside Meeting Place below, and put an X over the bad choices.

126



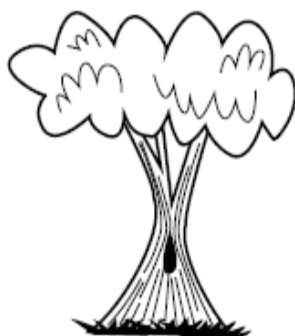
Neighbor's porch



Mailbox



Parked car



Tree



Scooter

64



Your front steps

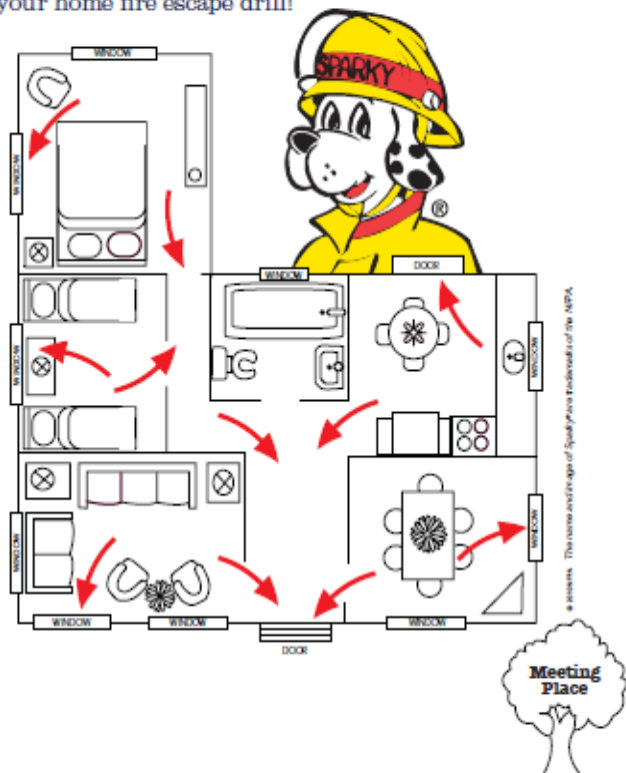


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How to Make a Home Fire Escape Plan

- Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Visit each room. Find two ways out.
- All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.
- Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
- Pick a meeting place outside. It should be in front of your home. Everyone will meet at the meeting place.
- Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.
- Talk about your plan with everyone in your home.
- Learn the emergency phone number for your fire department.
- Practice your home fire escape drill!



- Make your own home fire escape plan on the back of this paper.

— Keeping Your Community Safe with Home Fire Escape Drills —

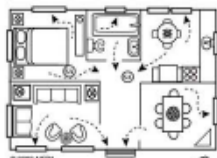
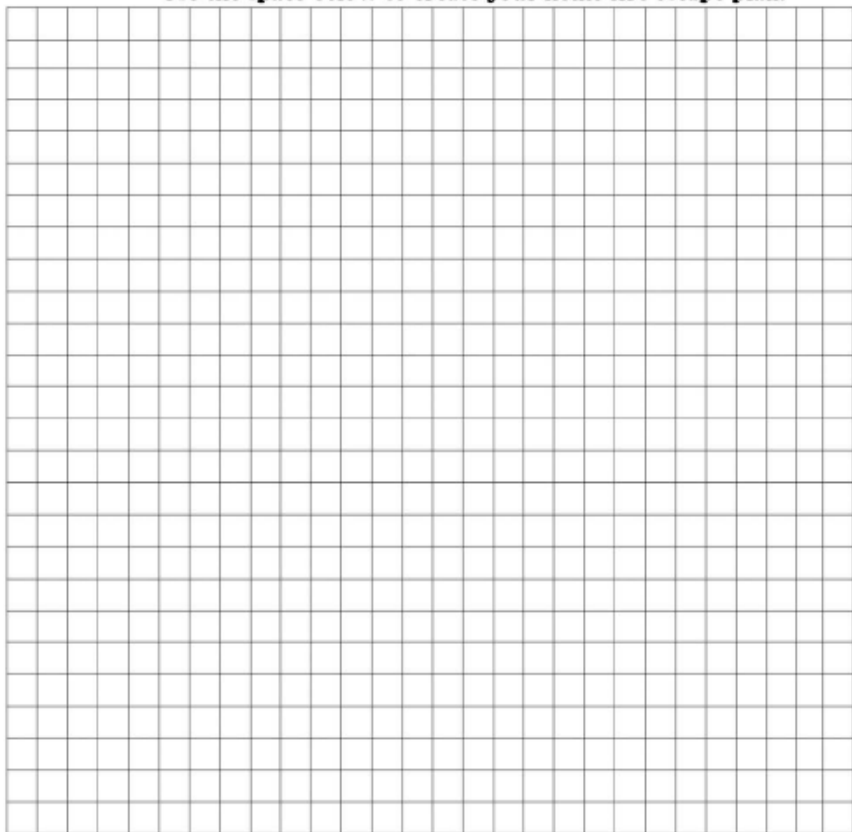
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Home Fire Escape Plan

Memorize your fire department's emergency phone number and write it here: _____

Use the space below to create your home fire escape plan.



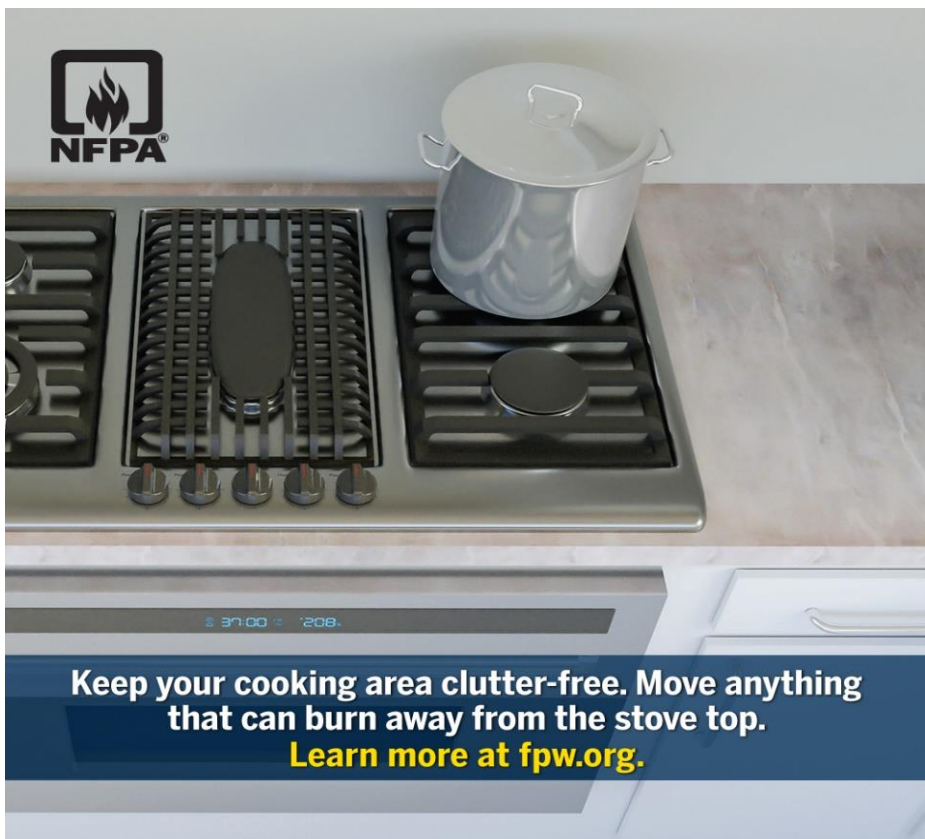
Meeting Place

- Draw a floor plan or a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Mark two ways out of each room.
- Mark all of the smoke alarms with . Smoke alarms should be in each sleeping room, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.
- Pick a family meeting place outside where everyone can meet.
- Remember, practice your plan at least twice a year!



Check out www.sparky.org for fire safety games and activities.
Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA.

Grown-ups: Children don't always awake when the smoke alarm sounds. Know what your child will do before a fire occurs. Get more information on smoke alarms and escape planning at www.nfpa.org/factsheets.



**Keep your cooking area clutter-free. Move anything
that can burn away from the stove top.
[Learn more at fpw.org.](https://fpw.org)**



Put a lid on it!
To extinguish a
small grease fire,
keep a pot lid nearby
when cooking.
Learn more at
fpw.org.





Focus on the food! Unattended cooking is the leading cause of fires in the kitchen.
Learn how to prevent cooking fires at fpw.org.

All but one of these jolly jack-o'-lanterns matches another jack in the pack. Can you find all the pumpkin pairs?
There are eight and one lone pumpkin.



CHECK OUT **SPARKY.ORG** FOR MORE FUN!

THE NAME AND IMAGE OF SPARKY ARE TRADEMARKS OF THE NFPA.

BE HALLOWEEN Safe

Halloween is a fun, and spooky, time of year for kids. Make trick-or-treating safe for your little monsters with a few easy safety tips.



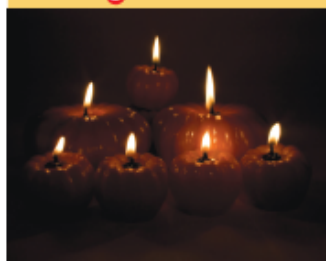
Sparky® is a trademark of the NFPA.

HALLOWEEN FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- » **When choosing a costume**, stay away from long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so he or she can see out.
- » **Provide children** with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.
- » **Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper** catch fire easily. **Keep all decorations** away from open flames and other heat sources like light bulbs and heaters.
- » **Use a battery-operated** candle or glow-stick in jack-o-lanterns. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns, use long, fireplace-style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and far enough out of the way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways and yards.
- » **Remember** to keep exits clear of decorations, so nothing blocks escape routes.
- » **Make sure** all smoke alarms in the home are working.
- » **Tell children** to stay away from open flames including jack-o-lanterns with candles in them. Be sure they know how to stop, drop and roll if their clothing catches fire. (Have them practice, stopping immediately, dropping to the ground, covering their face with hands, and rolling over and over to put the flames out.)

If your children are going to **Halloween parties** at others' homes, have them look for ways out of the home and plan how they would get out in an emergency.

Did you know?



Decorations are the first thing to ignite in 900 reported home fires each year. Two of every five of these fires were started by a candle.

Elmwood Park Fire Department

708 452-3934



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information

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Carbon Monoxide Safety



Often called the silent killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide.

- » CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- » Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.
- » Choose a CO alarm that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- » Call your local fire department's non-emergency number to find out what number to call if the CO alarm sounds.
- » Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- » If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.
- » If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel.
- » If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.
- » During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- » A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- » Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO — only use outside.

HOME HEATING EQUIPMENT



Have fuel-burning heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in. When using a fireplace, open the flue for adequate ventilation. Never use your oven to heat your home.

FACTS

- ❗ A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.
- ❗ In 2010, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 80,100 non-fire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found, or an average of nine calls per hour.



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Smoke Alarms at Home

SMOKE ALARMS ARE A KEY PART of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.



SAFETY TIPS

- » Install smoke alarms inside and outside each bedroom and sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- » Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- » It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds they all sound.
- » Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- » There are two kinds of alarms. Ionization smoke alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires. It is best to use of both types of alarms in the home.
- » A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the stove.
- » People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- » Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

FACTS

- ! Smoke alarms should be installed inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level. Smoke alarms should be connected so when on sounds, they all sound. Most homes do not have this level of protection.
- ! Roughly 2 out of 3 fire deaths happen in homes with no working smoke alarms or the alarms are not working.



Cooking Safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity and can be relaxing. But did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries? By following a few safety tips you can prevent these fires.

"COOK WITH CAUTION"

- » Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- » Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- » If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- » Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

IF YOU HAVE A COOKING FIRE...

- » Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- » Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number after you leave.
- » If you try to fight the fire, be sure others are getting out and you have a clear way out.
- » Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- » For an oven fire turn off the heat and keep the door closed.



Cooking and Kids

Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

FACTS

- ❗ The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- ❗ Most cooking fires in the home involve the stovetop.



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Electrical Safety

Flipping a light switch. Plugging in a coffeemaker. Charging a laptop computer. These are second nature for most of us. Electricity makes our lives easier. However, we need to be cautious and keep safety in mind.



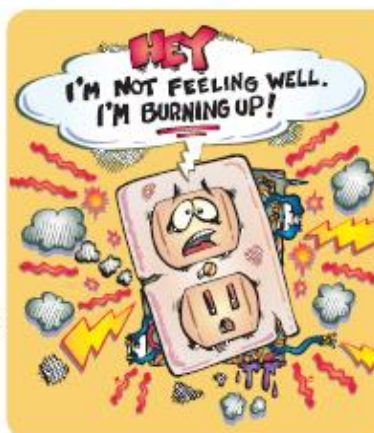
SAFETY TIPS

- Have all electrical work done by a qualified electrician.
- When you are buying or remodeling a home, have it inspected by a qualified electrician.
- Only plug one heat-producing appliance (such as a coffee maker, toaster, space heater, etc.) into a receptacle outlet at a time.
- Major appliances (refrigerators, dryers, washers, stoves, air conditioners, etc.) should be plugged directly into a wall receptacle outlet. Extension cords and plug strips should not be used.
- Arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) are a kind of circuit breaker that shuts off electricity when a dangerous condition occurs. Consider having them installed in your home. Use a qualified electrician.
- Use ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) to reduce the risk of shock. GFCIs shut off an electrical circuit when it becomes a shock hazard. They should be installed inside the home in bathrooms, kitchens, garages and basements. All outdoor receptacles should be GFCI protected.
- Test AFCIs and GFCIs once a month to make sure they are working properly.
- Check electrical cords to make sure they are not running across doorways or under carpets. Extension cords are intended for temporary use. Have a qualified electrician add more receptacle outlets so you don't have to use extension cords.
- Use light bulbs that match the recommended wattage on the lamp or fixture. There should be a sticker that indicates the maximum wattage light bulb to use.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Call a qualified electrician or your landlord if you have:

- Frequent problems with blowing fuses or tripping circuit breakers
- A tingling feeling when you touch an electrical appliance
- Discolored or warm wall outlets
- A burning or rubbery smell coming from an appliance
- Flickering or dimming lights
- Sparks from an outlet



www.nfpa.org/education



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Candle Safety

Candles may be pretty to look at but they are a cause of home fires — and home fire deaths. Remember, a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn.

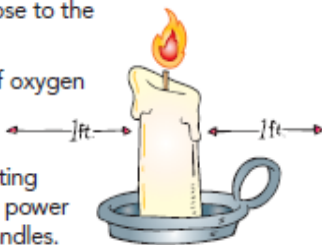
1 "CANDLE WITH CARE"

- » Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- » Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.

Think about using flameless candles in your home. They look and smell like real candles.

1 IF YOU DO BURN CANDLES, make sure that you...

- » Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily.
- » Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface.
- » Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
- » Don't burn a candle all the way down — put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- » Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- » Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.



Candles and Kids

Never leave a child alone in a room with a burning candle. Keep matches and lighters up high and out of children's reach, in a locked cabinet.



FACTS

- ! **December** is the peak time of year for home candle fires.
- ! Roughly **one-third** of home candle fires started in the bedroom.
- ! More than half of all candle fires start when things that can burn are too close to the candle.



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information

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Escape Planning

Plan Ahead! If a fire breaks out in your home, you may have only a few minutes to get out safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Everyone needs to know what to do and where to go if there is a fire.

SAFETY TIPS

- ▶ **MAKE** a home escape plan. Draw a map of your home showing all doors and windows. Discuss the plan with everyone in your home.
- ▶ **KNOW** at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily.
- ▶ **HAVE** an outside meeting place (like a tree, light pole or mailbox) a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet.
- ▶ **PRACTICE** your home fire drill at night and during the day with everyone in your home, twice a year.
- ▶ **PRACTICE** using different ways out.
- ▶ **TEACH** children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- ▶ **CLOSE** doors behind you as you leave.

IF THE ALARM SOUNDS...

- ▶ If the smoke alarm sounds, **GET OUT AND STAY OUT.** Never go back inside for people or pets.
- ▶ If you have to escape through smoke, **GET LOW AND GO** under the smoke to your way out.
- ▶ **CALL** the fire department from outside your home.

FACTS

- ! According to an NFPA survey, only **one of every three** American households have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan.
- ! While **71%** of Americans have an escape plan in case of a fire, only **47%** of those have practiced it.
- ! **One-third** of American households who made an estimate thought they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life-threatening. The time available is often less. And only **8%** said their first thought on hearing a smoke alarm would be to get out!



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information www.nfpa.org/education
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Smoking & Home Fire Safety



The place where we feel safest — at home — is where most smoking-materials structure fires, deaths, and injuries occur. Smoking materials are the leading cause of fire deaths. Smoking material fires are preventable.

Smoking Safety

- » If you smoke, use only fire-safe cigarettes.
- » If you smoke, smoke outside. Most deaths result from fires that started in living rooms, family rooms and dens or in bedrooms.
- » Keep cigarettes, lighters, matches, and other smoking materials up high out of the reach of children, in a locked cabinet.

Put It Out!

- » Use a deep, sturdy ashtray. Place it away from anything that can burn.
- » Do not discard cigarettes in vegetation such as mulch, potted plants or landscaping, peat moss, dried grasses, leaves or other things that could ignite easily.
- » Before you throw away butts and ashes, make sure they are out, and dousing in water or sand is the best way to do that.

Smoking and Medical Oxygen

Never smoke and never allow anyone to smoke where medical oxygen is used. Medical oxygen can cause materials to ignite more easily and make fires burn at a faster rate than normal. It can make an existing fire burn faster and hotter.

Be Alert!

- To prevent a deadly cigarette fire, you must be alert. You won't be alert if you are sleepy, have taken medicine or drugs that make you drowsy or have consumed alcohol.
- Never smoke in bed.

FACTS

- ! The risk of dying in a home structure fire caused by smoking materials rises with age.
- ! One out of four fatal victims of smoking-material fires is not the smoker whose cigarette started the fire.

www.nfpa.org/education



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Heating Safety

There is something about the winter months and curling up with a good book by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths? With a few simple safety tips and precautions you can prevent most heating fires from happening.

BE WARM AND SAFE THIS WINTER!

- » Keep anything that can burn at least three-feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- » Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- » Never use your oven to heat your home.
- » Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- » Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- » Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- » Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- » Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- » Test smoke alarms monthly.



Heating Equipment Smarts

Install wood burning stoves following manufacturer's instructions or have a professional do the installation. All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

Install and maintain CO alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning. If you **smell** gas in your gas heater, do not light the appliance. Leave the home immediately and call your local fire department or gas company.



FACT

Half of home heating fires are reported during the months of **December, January, and February.**



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Thanksgiving Safety

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.



- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

Did you know?



Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

Have activities that keep kids out of the kitchen during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done outside the kitchen.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Your Logo

SPARKY®

MAD LIBS®



Thanksgiving Dinner

Thanksgiving is always fun at my house. I love _____. My
(kind of animal/s)
favorite thing about Thanksgiving is _____. I like _____
(noun/s) (adjective)
mashed potatoes and _____ apple pie. My whole dog family
(adjective)
comes to my _____ for dinner.
(noun/s)

When they get there, I make sure to show them my home fire escape plan and two ways out of every room. While I am in the kitchen cooking, everyone plays a _____ game of count the spots. Let me
(adjective)
tell you, with my whole family there, there are a lot of spots...we are Dalmatians after all.

The most important part of the day is when we all give thanks for _____.
(noun/s)



Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS

- ❗ One of every four home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems.
- ❗ Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ❗ A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly **one in every four** of the fires.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



— SERVE UP —
Fire Safety
— IN THE KITCHEN! —



**Did you know cooking is the No. 1 cause
of home fires and home fire injuries?
Fire Prevention Week™ is Oct. 4-10.
Learn more at fpw.org.**