



10 FIRE SAFETY TIPS

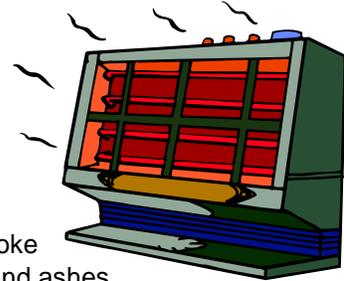


1. Watch what you Cook! Never leave cooking food on the stovetop unattended and keep a close eye on food cooking inside the oven. Always have a lid nearby to slide over a pan in case of fire. Cooking is the leading cause of home fires- the majority of stovetop fires happen because of unattended cooking.

2. Space Heaters need Space!

Keep fixed and portable space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn.

Heating is the leading cause of reported, unconfirmed home fires during the winter months of December, January, and February.



3. Smokers Need Watchers! Encourage smokers to smoke outside. Provide sturdy, deep ashtrays and make sure cigarette butts and ashes are out before throwing them away. Smoking materials are the leading cause of fire deaths and the third leading cause of home fire injuries.



4. Practice EDITH! Exit Drills In The Home is an excellent way to ensure that you and your family will be able to get out of your home in the event of a fire or emergency.

5. Inspect Electrical Cords. Make sure all cords are not pinched behind furniture, under rugs, or stretched. Replace cords that are cracked, frayed, have broken plugs, or have loose connections. Electrical distribution equipment is the fifth leading cause of home fires and the sixth leading cause of home fire deaths.

6. Use Candles with Care. Keep candles at least one foot away from anything that can burn and put them out when you leave the room or go to sleep. From 1990 to 2001 the number of candle fires has almost tripled.



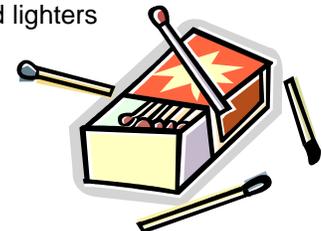
7. Get Low and Go! If you must escape through smoke, crawl low on your hands and knees to your exit, keeping your head one to two feet above the floor where the air is cleaner.



8. Install Smoke Alarms. Installing a smoke detector on every level of your home and outside all sleeping areas is a great way to ensure safety. Make sure everyone knows the sound of the alarm. If you sleep with bedroom doors closed, install interconnected alarms in the bedrooms so when one sounds, they all sound.

9. Test Smoke Alarms. Batteries should be changed twice a year, and once the battery is changed, pressing and holding the button down on the alarm will cause it to make a loud beeping noise, which indicates that the smoke detector is working.

10. Keep Matches and Lighters out of sight! Matches and lighters should be kept out of reach of children – up high in a locked cabinet. Children under six years of age are most likely to start fires while playing with matches and lighters.



For More Information

www.usfa.dhs.gov

www.nfpa.org

www.sparky.org