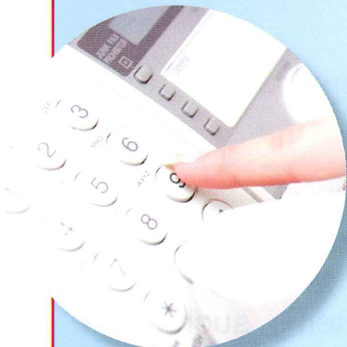


Fire Prevention & Safety Tips



- Make sure candles are not placed near open windows or left unattended.
- Always stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stove top – turn off the stove when answering the doorbell, telephone, or leaving the kitchen for any reason.
- Even when it is in the off position, make sure stove top is always clear of combustible materials, such as hand towels, mail, or paper towels.
- Test your smoke alarms once a month.
- Develop a family escape plan with two ways out and a meeting place; practice your plan.
- Teach children your address and how to place a 911 call.
- Have an expert inspect your chimney and furnace yearly.
- When using a space heater, place it several feet away from combustible materials, such as magazines, curtains, or newspapers, and turn it off when you leave the room.
- Check laundry rooms and dryer vents to ensure they are free from accumulations of lint (check under and behind dryers).
- If using a real tree during the Christmas season, keep the tree well watered and dispose of it after two weeks or sooner if the needles begin to drop.
- Store matches and lighters in a locked cabinet where children cannot get to them.
- If you smoke, use deep ashtrays and make sure that you put it out completely every time.
- When using a fireplace, set a metal or glass screen in front to prevent any sparks from escaping.

Home Safety Check List

Use this list when conducting home safety checks in the community.

- Smoke alarms are located in each bedroom, outside each sleeping area, such as the hallway, and on every level of the home.
- Smoke alarms are tested monthly to ensure the batteries are working properly.
- The residents have a fire escape plan in place and regularly practice it.
- Fire extinguishers are available on every level of the home.
- Carbon monoxide detectors are located near each bedroom and on every level of the home.
- The home has an emergency supply kit.
- Emergency phone numbers are programmed in the phone or posted near it.
- Deadbolt locks can be unlocked from the inside without a key.
- Combustible storage is separate from heaters and heating devices.
- No storage on stairs or in a manner that blocks exit doors or rescue windows.
- Flammable liquids are stored in proper containers and located away from sources of heat or ignition.
- Extension cords are not overloaded, worn, frayed, spliced, or otherwise damaged.
- Extension cords are not run under carpets or through walls or ceilings.
- All electrical switches and receptacles have a proper cover plate.
- Child locks are installed on all cabinets used to store dangerous items, such as poisons, cleaners, matches, and lighters.
- Correct address is displayed and easily visible from the street, even at night.
- Weeds, grass, vines, or other growth that may be ignited is cut down and removed.
- Pools, hot tubs, or other large bodies of water are surrounded by a four-foot fence, or a fence meeting local requirements, with self-closing gates which lock on the "inside" of the barrier or have a cover that meets industry standards.
- Barbeque grills are located a sufficient distance from siding, eaves, tree branches, and combustible decks in a well-ventilated area.