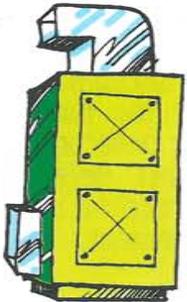


WOOD STOVES, SPACE HEATERS, FIREPLACES



Check out every appliance used for additional heating before the cold weather sets in. Make sure they are in good working order at the beginning of every season. Then, keep the following precautions in mind:

- Burn only dry seasoned hardwood in wood stoves and fireplaces.
- Inspect chimneys every year. Check flues and dampers to be sure they're working properly.
- Keep a fire screen or closure in front of the fireplace.
- Use only approved kerosene in kerosene heaters. Refill outside after unit has cooled. While in use, place the heater three feet away from anything that can burn or catch fire.



FURNACES

It is very important to be fire-safe-minded about the furnace and the general condition of your basement. This area of the home is a common location for accidental fires.

What can you do to keep your furnace and basement area safe from fire? Here's a few important steps:

- Have your furnace regularly cleaned and maintained by a qualified service technician.
- Keep the area around your furnace clear of combustible materials like old rags and newspapers.
- Be sure all flammable materials like paint are tightly sealed in their proper containers.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in good working order nearby.

IF FIRE HAPPENS



The most important thing is to get out quickly and safely prepared!

- 1.) Have an escape plan! Know beforehand exactly what you will do and where you will meet outside in case of fire.
- 2.) Be sure you have two escape routes from every room.
- 3.) Make certain your means of escape are always clear and unobstructed.
- 4.) Insure safe passage out of second story windows with special provisions such as emergency ladders.
- 5.) Young children and the elderly must be clearly shown how to escape.
- 6.) Everyone in the home must be able to recognize the sound of the alarm.
- 7.) Feel doors for heat with the back of hand before opening. Fire may be on the other side.
- 8.) Crawl low under smoke.
- 9.) If clothing catches fire, stop...drop...and roll to put out flames.
- 10.) Know how to call the fire dept. from a safe place outside.

GET OUT AND STAY OUT. NEVER GO BACK!

FIRE PREVENTION

ALL OVER THE HOUSE



FIRE PREVENTION

IS SERIOUS BUSINESS!

Accidental fires in the home cause thousands of fatalities and injuries every year. Fire also destroys millions of dollars in personal property and real estate. Much of this tragic loss can be avoided by the application of sound fire prevention measures. This brochure is presented as a handy reminder for fire prevention practices.



BEWARE IF IT BURNS!

Any combustible material can become fuel for fire. Safe home fire prevention practice includes being especially mindful of the following:

- MATCHES** • Always keep matches away from children. Never strike matches as a form of entertainment for kids, or make lighting fires appear to be fun. Matches are not toys!
- ELECTRICITY** • Don't overload electrical outlets with more appliances than the circuit can handle.
 - Check electrical cords for fraying and wear.
 - Never cover cords under rugs.
 - Put plastic outlet covers on unused receptacles.
- FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS** • Store paint and varnish in tightly closed containers.
 - Keep them in a cool area.
 - Never use near heat or flame.



FIRE EXTINGUISHERS can keep a small fire from becoming a big fire. Keep an A-B-C rated unit at every high-risk location in your home...kitchen, garage, basement, etc. Be sure they are always in good working order.

HOUSE KEEPING...

A VERY IMPORTANT FIRST STEP!

The single most important step you can take to prevent accidental fires around the home is to keep it clean and clear of combustible debris.



Be particularly concerned about the areas where most home fires occur because of dangerously stored items that can ignite instantaneously. This includes old rags, newspapers, and cardboard boxes stored in hot attics... Flammable liquids like paint and kerosene kept near heating equipment in the basement and materials with low kindling points in the garage or yard.



CARE IN THE KITCHEN

Kitchens are high-risk areas... Always turn pot handles away from the front of the stove. Don't wear loose floppy clothes while cooking. Never try to put out a grease fire with water. Maintain a "safety zone" where children aren't allowed to play near the stove.



SMOKE DETECTORS

Most fatal home fires occur at night while the victims are asleep. They usually succumb to poisonous gas and smoke before the flames ever reach them. A smoke alarm or detector, in good working order, is your best defense against this threat. Have a unit installed near every sleeping area and in the basement.

CIGARETTES

Careless smoking habits cause many home fires every year. Never smoke in bed. Always check for smoldering butts and ashes where visitors have been smoking. Provide large non-combustible ashtrays. Watch out for flying sparks and hot ashes near fans and in breeze ways.

