

# Fire Safety Tips

## **SMOKE ALARMS**

- Have a working smoke alarm on each level of your home and outside bedrooms.
- Test smoke alarms monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.
- Install smoke alarms away from air vents.
- Install smoke alarms on the ceiling or wall, at least 4 inches from the corners.
- When affixed to walls, smoke alarms should be between 4 and 12 inches from the ceiling.
- Never disable or remove smoke alarm batteries.

## **ESCAPE PLANNING**

- Develop a fire escape plan with the members of your household and practice often.
- Know two ways to exit from every room in your home.
- Make sure that safety bars on windows can be opened from inside your home.
- Crawl low, under smoke.
- Feel closed doors. If hot, use another exit.
- Identify a place to meet outside in case of fire. Never re-enter a burning building.
- Escape first. Then call 9-1-1 for emergency assistance.

## **FIRE SAFETY**

- Keep clothes, blankets, curtains and other combustibles at least three feet from portable heaters.
- Place portable heaters where they will not tip over easily.
- Have chimneys cleaned and inspected annually by a professional.
- Clear the area around the hearth of debris, flammables and decorative materials.
- Always use a metal mesh screen with fireplaces and leave glass doors open while burning a fire.
- Keep clothes, towels and other combustibles away from stove burners.
- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Be sure your stove and small appliances are off before going to bed.
- Check for frayed wires and do not run cords under rugs or furniture.
- Never overload electrical sockets.
- Keep lighters and matches out of the reach of children.
- Never leave cigarettes unattended.
- Never smoke in bed.

Click on the links below for more information on fire safety.

[U.S. Fire Administration](#)

[National Fire Protection Association](#)