

Safe Home

Different ways to make sure that your home is fire safe.

Good housekeeping:

Clean out storage areas such as garages, sheds, and basements on a regular basis. Clutter gives a fire a place to start and creates obstacles that might prevent escaping safely.

Clean the vegetation from around your house or any structures that could pose a hazard.

Remove grease from kitchen exhaust fans

Put oily rags in a metal, airtight container

Old paint and paint thinner is flammable and should be stored properly.

Smoke alarms

The majority of home fires that kill people happen at night. Smoke and poisonous gases may actually put you into a deeper sleep and not wake you up.

Install a smoke detector on every level of your home, outside each sleeping area, and in each bedroom.

Owners are required by law to provide and maintain working smoke detectors in rental units and apartment dwellings.

Do not install smoke detectors in or near kitchens, bathrooms or garages where you may receive false alarms.

Install 4-12 inches from the ceiling on the wall. If on the ceiling, place at least 4 inches from the nearest wall.

Test monthly and replace batteries twice a year. Replace the detector every 10 years or when the test button will not work.

Three major causes of fires:

Smoking materials

Electrical problems

Cooking

Children playing with matches and lighters are the leading cause of home fires.

Cigarette ignition in bed or furniture is common. Do not smoke in bed or around combustible furniture. Also purchase newer mattresses or furniture, as they are required to be fire resistant.

Replace frayed or worn wiring.

Do not place wiring under rugs, over nails, or in high traffic areas.

Use a power strip directly into the wall outlet.
Unplug electrical appliances when not in use.
Keep fire extinguishers located nearby and one on each level of the house.
Cover kitchen fires with a lid to smother the fire. Or use an appropriate kitchen fire extinguisher for grease fires.
Keep children a safe distance from hot liquids or other hot surfaces.
PASS – Pull Aim Squeeze Sweep
Class ABC fires
Know how to shut off the utilities to your home if necessary. Only turn off gas if there is a leak or fire.
Stock a home Disaster Supplies kit
Have a family contact out of the area for emergencies
CO detectors can be mounted anywhere in the home.
Practice an escape plan in your home with two exits from every room.
Have a family meeting place
Once you get out, stay out!