



# Home Fire Safety Inspection Checklist



A fire can occur in any part of your home. Use this checklist to make a safety check of your home.

## Smoking Habits:

- Are all matches and lighters kept out of the reach of children?
- Is "NO SMOKING IN BED" a rule of the house?
- Is your family aware that ash trays should NEVER be emptied into waste basket?
- Are there plenty of large, safe ash trays throughout the house?
- Do you check for smoldering cigarette butts in the furniture?

## Electrical Hazards:

- Are appliances check periodically for good operating conditions?
- Are you careful not to run extension cords under rugs or over hooks and nails?
- When using extension cords for appliances, does the gauge of both cords match?
- Are electrical outlets overloaded?

## Housekeeping:

- Do you keep rubbish cleaned out of attics, garages and yards?
- Is paint kept in tightly closed metal containers?
- Are flammable liquids stored in safety cans and kept away from heat and children?
- Are oily rags kept in a tightly sealed container?
- Is your clothes dryer vent clean and properly installed?

## Heating and Cooling:

- If you have a fireplace, is a screen always placed in front of it?
- Is the filter for your forced air heater changed yearly and the venting cleaned?
- Are furnaces and wood burning stoves in good repair and located away from combustible walls and ceilings?
- Do you have the fireplace chimney cleaned and checked yearly?
- Do you make sure combustibles are not stored near the stove, heater, or fireplace?
- Do your children keep a safe distance from flame and heat sources?



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## Smoke Alarms:

- Have you installed a smoke alarm in and outside every sleeping area and on each level of the home?
- Do you test your smoke alarms every month?
- Do you replace the battery (even on hard-wired alarms) at least twice a year?
- Is your smoke alarm over 10 years old? Replace it!

## Fire Escape Plan:

- Does your family have a fire escape plan prepared?
- Is your escape plan posted and regularly practiced?
- Does each bedroom have TWO exits?
- Do you have a meeting place outside in the front of your home that everyone knows to go and be safe?
- Are emergency response numbers posted for all family members to see?
- Do your children know their address?
- Do you show your babysitter/caregiver your home escape plan and review 9-1-1 with them?
- Does your family know the first rule in fire emergencies: "GET OUT AND STAY OUT!"

## Fire Extinguishers:

- Do you have a UL approved A-B-C type fire extinguisher in your home?
- Do you take it out two times a year and shake it to keep the powder from settling at the bottom?

## Outside:

- Have all dried grass cuttings, tree trimmings and weeds been removed from your property?
- Can you see your house numbers from the street?

For additional information on Home Fire and Injury Prevention contact our Fire and Life Safety Educator at 815-467-5637 ext. 112.