

#### **Special Instructions:**

\*Note: Because of the size of the document, this year's Proclamation is provided as a sample only. To obtain a hard copy(s), please contact the Office of the Fire Marshal or Fire Commissioner for your province.





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Welcome to Fire Prevention Canada's Fire Prevention Week Kit. This kit contains valuable information that we believe will assist fire departments to get their Fire Prevention Week message out to the general public. The kit also contains numerous fact sheets and other educational material for use as handouts to help educate the general public in fire prevention. Following is an overview of the kit's contents.

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#### Patron/Président d'honneur

His Excellency the Right Honourable/Son Excellence le très honorable David Johnston C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D. Governor General of Canada/Gouverneure générale du Canada



#### FIRE PREVENTION CANADA

Working with the public and private sectors to achieve fire safety through education

#### PRÉVENTION DES INCENDIES DU CANADA

Travailler avec les secteurs privé et public afin de promouvoir la sécurité-incendie par l'éducation

This year Fire Prevention Week will be celebrated and observed October 7-13, 2012. The theme "*Have Two Ways Out*.©" is so appropriate as we continue to experience needless deaths and losses from senseless predictable and preventable events.

Fire Prevention Canada wants to assist you in your planning for a successful campaign. With this in mind, we can serve as a valuable resource of worthwhile information and education programs that can reduce losses. You are invited to visit our website at www.fiprecan.ca where you will find a FPW Kit along with items and areas of interest that will support your local campaign. Pamphlets and fact sheets can be downloaded, printed and handed out or copied and sent electronically. You will also find suggestions and helpful ideas for local promotion and publicity, including public service announcements, along with ways to engage your local officials and VIPs who can help promote and disseminate your fire safety message. We welcome you to refer your audience to our website for more fire prevention tips. Of course if you feel there is any additional material that might be of interest or benefit to us and your colleagues, we would like to get such material or suggestions for additional topics from you.

**Fire Prevention Canada** is a non-profit organization which depends on sponsors and volunteers to help keep Canada fire-safe. In the last year we have collaborated with HRSDC and a number of corporate sponsors and partners such as Levitt Safety, Current Safe and McDonald's Restaurants. We are very grateful for their support. If you have any suggestions for partnering with us, or know of someone who would like to join with us in a wide variety of mutually beneficial projects, both planned and underway, please contact any of the FPC Directors or Secretary that are identified on our website.

Canadians must be made aware of the simple measures that can be taken to prevent a devastating fire from occurring in their homes. Let us ensure that the public are well informed and educated. It's about life safety first and foremost and Fire Prevention Canada is committed to helping you with this endeavour. Together we can save lives.

Sincerely,

Rick McCullough, President - Fire Prevention Canada Director Fire & Protective Services City of Regina

\_\_\_\_\_

Registered charity/Oeuvre de charité reconnue 8915958RR0001 P.O. Box 37009 3332 McCarthy Road Ottawa, ON K1V-0W0 Tel: (613) 749-3844

www.fiprecan.ca

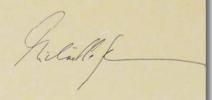












# Canada

Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her other Kealms and Territories QUEEN, Beab of the Commonwealth. Befender of the Faith.

TO ALL TO WHOM these Presents shall come or whom the same may in anyway concern.

#### A PROCLAMATION

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that information on fire causes and recommended preventive measures be disseminated during a specific period of the year:

AND WHEREAS the 2008 fire prevention theme for this period is:

Condo, have thought fit to designate and do designate the week commercing SUNDAY, THE FIFTH OF OCTOBER, AND ENDING ON SATURDAY, THE ELEVENTH OF OCTOBER.

and further, in appreciation of the many services rendered by the members of the Fire Service of Conda, that SATURDAY the ELEVENTH OF OCTOBER be designated as FIRE SERVICE RECOGNITION DAY.

AND WE do recommend to all Our Loving Subjects that during Fire Prevention Week, federal, provincial and municipal authorities intensify their fire prevention activities

OF ALL WHICH Our Loving Subjects and all others whom these Presents may oncern are hereby required to take notice and to govern themselves accordingly.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Canada to be hereunto affixed.

#### WITNESS

Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Michaelle Jean, Chancellar and Principal Companion of Our Order of Carada, Chancellar and Commander of Our Order of Military Merit, Chancellar and Commander of Our Order of Merit of the Police Forces, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

AT OUR GOVERNMENT HOUSE, in Our City of Ottawa, this twenty-fourth day of June in the year of Our Lard two thousand and eight and in the fifty-seventh year of Our BY COMMAND,

> Richard Bilerini DEPUTY REGISTRAR GENERAL OF CANADA

Elizabeth Beux, par la Grace de Bieu, KEINE du Coyaume-Uni, du Canada et de ses autres royaumes et territotres, Chef bu Commonwealth, Offenseut de la Foi.

À TOUS CEUX à qui les présentes parviennent ou qu'icelles peuvent de quelque manière concerner

#### PROCLAMATION

VI que de nombreux citoyens dévoués ont épousé la cause des appeurs-pompiers bénévoles et des services d'incendie professionnels et industriels en qualité de s'porteniers dans la présention des incendies offis de réduire au minimum les pertes de vie, du certification de bestie et la Centingle 1 servicinement;

VU que les pertes attribubbles aux incendies au Conada demeurent beaucoup trop evées par ropport à celles erregistrées dans d'autres pays industrialisés et que, par neéquent, de meilleures mesures de prévention s'imposent;

VU l'opportunité de diffuser, pendant une période déterminée de l'année, des renseignements sur les causes des incendies et les mesures préventives recommandées;

VU que le thème portant sur la prévention des incendies en 2008 est

SACHEZ DONC MATNITENANT CUEF, un et over l'ovis de Notre Conseil privé pour le Conada, Nous avons cru bon de désigner et Nous désignens à titre de

#### « SEMAINE DE PRÉVENTION DES INCENDIES »

la semaine commençant le DIMANCHE CTINQ OCTOBRE, et expirant le SAMEDI ONZE OCTOBRE, de la présente année: de plus, Nous décrétors que le SAMEDI ONZE OCTOBRE soit désigné JOUR EN HOMMAGE AU PERSONNEL DE SÉCURITÉ-INCENDIE en recommissance des nombreux bienfaits que les services d'incerdie du Canada rendent à la

ET NOUS recommondons à tous Nos féaux sujets que, durant ladite semaine, les principales fédéraux, provinciaux et municipaux intensifient leurs activités de prévention untre l'incendie.

DE CE QUI PRÉCÈDE, Nos féaux sujets et tous ceux que les présentes peuvent rner sont par les présentes requis de prendre connaissance et d'agir en conséquence.

EN FOI DE QUOI, Nous avons fait délivrer Nos présentes lettres patentes et y avons foit apposer le grand sceau du Canada.

#### TÉMOIN:

Notre três fidèle et bien-aimée Michaelle Jean, chancellère et compagnon principal de Notre Ordre du Canada, chancellère et commandeure de Notre Ordre du mérite militaire, chancellère et commandeure de Notre Ordre du mérite des corps policiers, gaverneure générale et commandant en chef du Canada.

PAR ORDRE,

SOUS-REGISTRAIRE DEBUTY ATTORNEY SOUS-PROCUREUR GENERAL DU CANADA GENERAL DU CANADA





# HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO MAKE YOUR CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS

The information in this 2012 Fire Prevention Week Kit is designed for you to use as you see fit, with the aim of helping you to develop a successful Fire Prevention Week campaign.

# Fire Prevention Week is October 7-13, 2012 "Have Two Ways Out.®"

Duplicate any page within this package for public use and/or forward it to local newspapers, magazines, newsletters, radio stations, TV stations, or use for local news and press releases. The earlier you provide this information, the better chance of them covering your story.

Provide the enclosed radio Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to your local radio and TV stations. These PSAs have been timed and are ready for airing. We suggest you send or personally deliver the PSAs to the media no later than September 10, 2012. Include contact names and telephone numbers for reporters to easily get in touch with your department. Follow-up is very important. Remember, television is the most effective media link to the public. Attempt to have your Fire Prevention Officer appear on television talk shows or the news.

Use the information provided to prepare your own press releases. Be sure to include a spokesperson's name from your organization. Again, follow-up is critical. A sample Mayoral Proclamation is also included. Contact your municipal office in late summer to arrange a proclamation signing ceremony. Having a photographer at the ceremony can provide material for both local newspapers and television stations.

A media information page offers some suggestions on how to work with the media. Community newspapers are always on the lookout for local events and news items. Prepared text or ad mats usually are used first since they require the least preparation.

Our partners in fire prevention have included, in this kit, some reproducible artwork and information to help you more effectively inform the public about programs available to them.





#### **COMMUNICATING THE MESSAGE**

Getting your fire safety message across to your intended audience is extremely important. It could save lives. If you incorporate some of the following tips into your fire safety campaign, you should effectively meet the goal of motivating people into taking action to reduce their risk of being injured or killed when caught in a fire situation.

- 1) **Stage an open house.** Children certainly will get a kick out of visiting an actual fire station. They will bring their parents and/or friends along with them who will be more apt to listen to what a uniformed firefighter will express to them. This is a great way to get the community involved while simultaneously providing an education.
- 2) Visit Schools. Teachers and school administrators will be more than happy to have fire spokespersons come to their classrooms to teach kids about fire prevention and what they need to do in case of a fire. Remember to bring handout material, which may include some or all of this kit. Remind children as well to talk to their parents about the issues discussed.
- 3) **Be proactive with the media.** People spend a lot of time reading newspapers, listening to the radio to and from work, browsing the Internet for news and watching television. The more fire prevention messages that we can spread among the various media outlets, the more opportunity we will have to reach the community. It is difficult to get the media's ear, but persistence will pay off because fire prevention is an important subject.
- 4) Visit homes in your community. What better way to explain safety tips than actually pointing them out to homeowners as you walk through their homes with them. Such a message will carry great weight, especially if a written report is included where you list the recommendations made during the visit, and leave it with the homeowner. It will bring the fire department closer to the community and will prompt more homeowners to take action and speak to their fellow homeowners about the positive experience. Ensure to include retirement communities in your planned visits.
- 5) **Stage public events in high traffic areas.** A table with uniformed fire representatives either at a shopping center, library and /or park is a great way to reach out to the public. The uniforms are immediately recognizable and so will make it easy for the public to approach. Have printed material on-hand so that people will remember what they need to do when they return home.
- 6) Have a focused message. Fortunately, we are never short on themes, because each year Fire Prevention Week provides us with one. This year, with *Have Two Ways Out.*<sup>©</sup>, we should include no more than 3-4 points with this theme in order for people to retain the information and implement the changes. For example, when discussing how to Prevent Home Fires, we might discuss the importance of i) safety tips for the home to reduce potential fire hazards, ii) winter safety tips which apply to all Canadians, iii) cooking safety tips because cooking fires are still a major cause of fires in Canada, and iv) candle safety tips because many residential fires originate from candles.





### PRESS RELEASE

(Your fire department)

YOUR (Address) LOGO (City or Town)

HERE (Country & Postal Code)

(Telephone number)

(Fax Number)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Date of release)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

(Contact name) (Department Name) (Telephone Number)

Fire Prevention Canada
ANNOUNCES
Fire Prevention Week

Have Two Ways Out.

October 7 - 13, 2012

" Have Two Ways Out.©"

Fire Prevention Week takes place from October 7<sup>th</sup> through to October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The theme for this year is " **Have Two Ways Out.**<sup>©</sup>". Fire Prevention Week is recognized every October during the full week – Sunday through Saturday – that October 7<sup>th</sup> falls on. Despite the fact that fewer fire losses are reported in Canada, still, on average, eight Canadians die from fire every week. Most of these fires are preventable and caused by careless behaviour. That is why it is critical to educate Canadians and incite them to act. During this week, fire departments across the nation will promote public awareness of the dangers of fire and the ways we can protect ourselves from fire.

To this point, Fire Prevention Canada's newly revamped website contains fire prevention and educational material. It is designed for the public to consult at, www.fiprecan.ca.

Fire Chief (your Chief's name) says, "This year's theme underscores the importance of making Canadians aware of the simple preventative measures they can take to prevent disaster from occurring to them. Statistics reveal that most fires are caused by careless behavior. An ounce of prevention in this case will save lives, homes and everything that we hold dear. It is the responsibility of every Canadian to educate themselves on the simple fire prevention measures they can take."

(Add additional information here that is pertinent to the problems you are experiencing in your area)





#### MAYORAL PROCLAMATION SAMPLE

WHEREAS the 2012 fire prevention theme for this period is "Have Two Ways Out.®"

**AND WHEREAS** fire losses in Canada, despite marked improvement, remain unacceptably high in comparison with those of other industrialized nations thereby necessitating improved fire prevention measures;

**AND WHEREAS** the needless loss of lives and property as a result of fire could be significantly reduced or eliminated by individual and community fire prevention programs;

**AND WHEREAS** most fires are caused by human carelessness and are both predictable and preventable if individuals are knowledgeable about fire prevention and safety;

**AND WHEREAS** the members of the Fire Service and other public agencies in combining their talents and efforts can ensure a successful fight against those conditions that cause fire;

**AND WHEREAS** each citizen must earnestly desire to provide a fire-safe place in which to live and work by eliminating those fire hazards that cause the loss of life, property, employment and the resources by which we exist;

**AND WHEREAS** the local efforts of the Fire Service are supported by the activities of organizations such as Fire Prevention Canada, the Council of Canadian Fire Marshals and Fire Commissioners, the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs, the Provincial Fire Chiefs Associations, and various associations of firefighters, fire instructors, and fire prevention officers.

**NOW THEREFORE,** I (Mayor's name), Mayor of (name of city/town), do hereby designate the week of October 7-13, 2012 as Fire Prevention Week, and I call upon the citizens of (name of city/town) to participate in fire prevention activities at home, work and school. I also call upon all public information agencies to actively participate in a coordinated effort to provide effective fire prevention programs, which will instil in the minds of each citizen, those fire safety practices which will reduce the loss of life and property damage caused by fire.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this	i =  day of (	), the year of
Our Lord two thousand and eleven.		

(signature)





#### READY TO USE RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### :10 seconds

A fire is no fun... but practicing fire safety can be. Plan two escape routes from every room and practice home fire drills. A message from Fire Prevention Canada and your local fire department.

#### :10 seconds

Each year, thousands of fires are caused by careless or improper use of cooking equipment. Never leave cooking appliances unattended when in use. A message from Fire Prevention Canada and your local fire department.

#### :10 seconds

Every year in Canada, approximately 1300 fires are started by children playing with matches and lighters. Keep matches and lighters out of sight and out of reach of children. A message from Fire Prevention Canada and your local fire department.

#### :10 seconds

Practice Fire Safety and Prevention: If a fire happens in your home, do you know what to do? Contact your local fire department for instruction. A message from Fire Prevention Canada and your local fire department.

#### :20 seconds

Cooking related fires are the No. 1 cause of home fires in Canada, resulting in many deaths and hundreds of injuries each year. Don't leave cooking appliances unattended when in use and be very cautious when cooking with oil. All cooking fires are preventable, so remember to select the proper heat for the food being prepared and keep your stove top clean and clear at all times. A message from Fire Prevention Canada and your local fire department.

#### :20 seconds

Careless smoking is the leading cause of home fire deaths. A smoker falling asleep in an upholstered chair or bed is the most common occurrence. Never smoke or allow someone to smoke when they are under the influence of medication, alcohol or drugs. A message from Fire Prevention Canada and your local fire department.

#### :20 seconds

Fire sprinklers go to work immediately to reduce fire danger by releasing water directly over the heat source, preventing the intense heat and smoke associated with fires. Having fire sprinklers in your home is like having firefighters guarding your home 24 hours a day. Sprinklers save lives by providing more precious time to allow for escape. A message from Fire Prevention Canada and your local fire department.

#### :20 seconds

Smoke alarms are the first line of defence against a deadly fire. The sound of a smoke alarm is your warning to leave the building. By developing a fire escape plan and practicing it often, you will be prepared to react correctly if a fire strikes. A message from Fire Prevention Canada and your local fire department.





# Fire Prevention Canada

www.fiprecan.ca

# **Fire Prevention Week**





Maintain your smoke alarms



Practice ofte



Get out <u>fast</u>, closing doors behind you Use stairs, not the elevator





Call out to others



Call for help from a neighbor's home Never go back inside a burning house

# "Have Two Ways Out.©" OCTOBER 7 - 13, 2012





#### SAFETY TIPS FOR THE HOME

#### Kitchen

- Avoid loose long sleeves when cooking.
- Check kettles and toasters for damaged electrical cords and thermostats.
- Use appliances that have an automatic shut-off.
- Keep a timer handy to remind you when the oven and burners should be switched off.
- If you take medication that causes drowsiness, do not use cooking appliances.
- Use a temperature-controlled electric skillet or deep-fryer for frying.
- Never leave your cooking unattended.
- Use appropriate cooking appliances and keep them clean.
- Keep a pot cover nearby to "put a lid on it" in the event of a fire.

#### **Living Room**

- Fireplace: always use a fire screen, ensuring it is the appropriate size for the fireplace opening.
- Do not overload electrical outlets or use extension cords in the place of additional outlets.
- Smokers should check furniture for fallen cigarettes or embers, which can smoulder undetected for several hours before bursting into flames.
- Ensure careful use of smoking materials and extinguish in water before disposal.
- Never leave cigarettes in an ashtray unattended.
- Use ashtrays with a double rim and deep centre.
- Keep matches, lighters and lit candles out of the reach of children.
- Never leave lit candles unattended.

#### **Bedroom**

- Install at least one smoke alarm outside each sleeping area. For improved safety, install a smoke alarm in every bedroom.
- Check electrical appliances regularly: electric blankets, heating pads, curling irons, radios, televisions, irons.
- Bedrooms should be non-smoking areas.





#### **Basement and Attic**

- Remove all combustible and flammable materials from the basement and attic.
- Store gasoline in well-ventilated areas.
- Do not store propane indoors.
- Use only approved containers to store and transport gasoline.
- Have a thorough yearly maintenance check of the furnace carried out by a professional.
- When replacing an old furnace, consult a professional to determine the most safe, economical and efficient system for your home.
- Chimneys should be cleaned at least once a year.

#### **Garage and Workshop**

- Flammable materials thinners, gasoline, paints, industrial cleaners should be stored neatly in approved containers and away from possible ignitable sources.
- Do not smoke, or leave matches or lighters in the garage or workshop.
- Install and know how to properly use the appropriate fire extinguisher for the garage/workshop.
- Keep the area clean. Remove garbage, paper products, oily rags and wood shavings regularly.



#### WINTER SAFETY

The winter season is the worst season for fires in Canada. That is why all Canadians must be mindful of the importance of fire prevention and safety. During the winter, we must heat our homes, most of our meals are prepared and eaten indoors, our clothing is dried indoors and people who smoke tend to do so indoors. Besides following the advice provided for in the other fact sheets on this site, for the winter remember that:

- Heating appliances such as space heaters should not have anything combustible closeby and need at least one metre (three feet) of space around them. Inspect the electrical cord attached. If it overheats, you have a fire hazard. Keep young children away from them.
- Electrical and heating systems can fail and become fire hazards. Ensure they are regularly checked by a professional, especially prior to the winter season when fireplaces, heaters, appliances and other electrical equipment are in maximum use.
- Smoking while in bed, tired or under the influence of alcohol or medication is the most common cause of fires that kill.
- Most chimney fires occur with wood-burning fireplaces. Ensure chimneys are cleaned and professionally inspected regularly. Burn only small quantities of wood at a time.
- Teach children that fire is not a toy; it is a tool we use to cook food and heat our homes.
- Educate your children about the dangers of fire and make sure they know that all fires, even small ones, can spread very quickly.
- Never use a flammable liquid near a flame or source of spark. Be aware of hidden sources like water heater pilot lights, electric motors or heaters. Never smoke while pouring or using flammable liquids.
- If even a small doubt exists about any appliance/equipment that you use, do not hesitate to contact a qualified technician. It may save your life, and the lives of your loved ones.

#### **Fireplace Safety**

A Fireplace becomes dangerous when accumulated tar or creosote catches fire or from uncontrolled burning or over-fuelling. Other causes of fireplace-related fires are substandard design or installation and lack of safety precautions.

- Open the damper before lighting the fire, and keep it open until the ashes are cool enough to touch.
- Ensure the fire is completely out before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Do not store combustible materials such as paper or wood too close to the fireplace.
- Use a screen in front of the fireplace opening to protect children and to prevent embers from escaping and igniting carpets, etc.
- Never leave children alone near a fireplace.
- Use dry, well-seasoned wood in small amounts.
- Have chimneys cleaned and serviced at regular intervals by a professional.
- Never overload your fireplace.
- Never use charcoal starter fluids, gasoline or any flammable substance to start fires.
- When using artificial logs, burn only one at a time and follow instructions on the





wrapping.

Always place the ashes in a metal container and take them outside the house.

#### The Winter Season and Carbon Monoxide

- It is important to install a carbon monoxide detector in your home. However, carbon monoxide detectors do not replace the need for prevention through yearly maintenance and inspection of heating systems and appliances.
- Smoke inhalation from fires is the most common form of carbon monoxide poisoning.
   Cigarette smoke and vehicle exhaust are the most common sources of regular carbon monoxide exposure.
- There must be an adequate supply of air for complete burning or combustion, or an
  excessive amount of carbon monoxide will accumulate indoors. Ensure that your wood
  stove or fireplace is not competing for long periods of time with your clothes dryer,
  kitchen, bathroom and attic vent fans, central vacuum cleaners and kitchen barbecues,
  which exhaust air from the home and so starve the furnace or the fireplace of oxygen.
- Proper venting of fuel-burning appliances to the outside is also essential to prevent collection of carbon monoxide gas inside buildings.
- Never insulate or try to seal up a drafty hood, wind cap or exhaust vent on any natural
  gas appliance (furnace, water heater, range, dryer, space heater or fireplace). Keep all
  fuel-burning equipment free of lint, dust and trash. Don't store anything close to the
  equipment that could restrict air circulation.
- Do a visual inspection of the equipment to look for signs of equipment problems, such as soot on a fireplace face, water collecting near a burner or rusted venting. If even a small doubt exists, have the equipment inspected by a qualified technician.
- Periodically check vent pipes between gas appliances and the chimney for corrosion or rust.
- Equipment that uses natural gas should show a clear blue flame—a yellow or orange flame may indicate a problem. If a problem appears, call a qualified technician.
- Ensure a source of fresh air is available, for an example an open window or flue, when operating a wood-burning fireplace.

#### The Dangers of Extension Cords

- Extension cords are a common cause of electrical fires. That is why you must be careful
  to use only extension cords that are rated for the power used by the device they are
  powering.
- Extension cords must never be run inside walls or under rugs or furniture. They can be damaged by traffic or heavy furniture and start arcing, which can lead to a fire.
- Extension cords can get warm during use and must be able to dissipate this heat or they can start a fire.





#### Signs of an Electrical Problem

- **Flickering lights.** If the lights dim every time you turn on an appliance it means that the circuit is overloaded or has a loose connection.
- **Sparks.** If sparks appear when you insert or remove a plug, it could be a sign of loose connections.
- Warm electrical cord. If an electrical cord is warm to the touch, the cord is underrated or defective.
- Frequent blown fuses or broken circuits. A fuse that continues to blow or circuit breaker that keeps tripping is an important warning sign of problems.
- **Frequent bulb burnout.** A light bulb that burns out frequently is a sign that the bulb is too high in wattage for the fixture.

#### **How to avoid Dryer Fires**

- Lack of maintenance is the number one cause of dryer fires. That is why it is critical to clean the lint filter before and after each use, and wipe away any lint that has accumulated around the drum.
- Perform periodic checks to ensure that the air exhaust vent pipe is unobstructed (lint accumulation) and the outdoor vent flap opens readily.
- Do not run the dryer without a lint filter.
- You are encouraged to not leave the dryer running if you go out, in case it malfunctions.





#### COOKING OIL AND GREASE FIRES ARE A MAJOR CAUSE OF RESIDENTIAL FIRES IN CANADA

Kitchen fires due to cooking oil or grease igniting into flames cause the fastest-spreading and most destructive type of residential fire. When cooking with grease or oil, it is extremely important that you plan ahead so that you will know how to react fast to fire. Here are some tips:

#### **Deep Frying**

• The safest way to deep fry foods such as chicken or fries is to use a thermostaticallycontrolled electric skillet or a deep fat fryer.

#### Pan Frying

- **Keep a pan lid or cookie sheet handy** in case grease or oil catches fire. The lid or cookie sheet should be slid over the top of the pan to smother the fire.
- Never attempt to move a flaming pot or pan away from the stove. The movement can fan the flames and so spread the fire. The pan will also likely be very hot, causing you to drop it. In either case, you are placing yourself at great risk. Your immediate action should be to smother the fire by sliding a lid or flat cookie sheet over the pan. Afterwards, turn off the heat and exhaust the fan, allowing the pan time to cool. Most importantly, react fast, because grease fires spread very quickly.

#### **Oven Cooking**

- Keep your oven clean. Grease and food splatters can ignite at high temperatures.
- Ensure that you wear oven mitts when removing cooking containers to avoid serious burns.
- Follow the cooking instructions for the recipe and the product you are using.
- Broiling is a popular method of cooking. When you use your broiler, place the rack 5 to 8 cm (two to three inches) from the broiler element. Always place a drip pan beneath the broiler rack to catch the fat drippings. Never use aluminum foil for this purpose because the fat accumulated on the foil could catch fire or spill over.

#### **Microwave Cooking**

Microwave ovens are a marvellous time-saving tool, but there are three characteristics of microwave cooking you should be cognisant of:

- The heat is reflected by the metal interior.
- Heat can pass through glass, plastic and other materials.







• Heat is absorbed by the food.

**Foods, like those in high-fat or sugar, can heat very rapidly** but feel cool to the touch. Pastry fillings can be very hot, but the crust cooler. Milk in baby bottles could be boiling, but the bottle itself not very hot to the touch. Use caution at all times.

Do not use tin foil or any other metal objects in the microwave. If a fire occurs, keep the door closed and unplug the unit. Call a qualified technician to ensure the microwave is in proper working order before using it again.



# ONE OF THE MAJOR CAUSES OF HOME FIRES, ESPECIALLY DURING THE WINTER AND CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

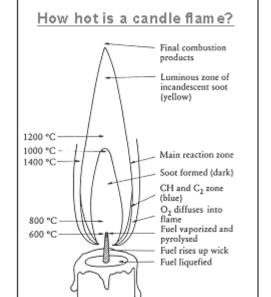
Candles provide great warmth and ambiance to any home. It is easy to forget that such a calming artifact is an open flame that can reach 1,400 \_C. Most candle fires begin in the bedroom – with a mattress or bedding cited as the first item to ignite – except during the holidays, when more people use candles precariously too close to decorations. Furniture and plastics are also cited as the first items in the home to catch fire from a lit candle.

# Statistics reveal that the most common causes of fire are

- · Leaving candles unattended.
- Falling asleep while a candle is lit.
- Using candles for light.
- Candles located too close to burnable objects.
- Candles knocked over by children, pets or sudden drafts.

#### **Safety Tips**

- Extinguish candles when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- Keep lit candles away from items that can catch fire such as toys, clothing, books, curtains, Christmas trees and paper decorations.
- Place candles in sturdy, burn-resistant containers that won't tip over and are big enough to collect dripping wax.
- Don't place lit candles near windows, where blinds or curtains may close or blow over them.
- Don't use candles in high traffic areas where children or pets could knock them over.
- Never let candles burn out completely. Extinguish them when they get to within two inches of the holder or decorative material.
- Never leave children or pets alone in a room with lit candles.
- Do not allow older children to light candles in their bedrooms. A forgotten candle or an accident is all it takes to start a fire.
- During power outages, exercise caution when using candles as a light source. Many destructive fires start when potential fire hazards go unnoticed in the dark.
- Never use a candle for light when fuelling equipment such as a camp fuel heater or lantern.
- Keep candle wicks short at all times. Trim the wick to one-quarter inch (6.4 mm).
- Be wary of buying novelty candles. Avoid candles surrounded by flammable paint, paper, dried flowers, or breakable/meltable containers.
- Extinguish taper and pillar candles when they burn to within two inches of the holder, and container candles before the last half-inch of wax begins to melt.







- When buying or using novelty candles, try to determine if they pose a potential fire hazard (if they contain a combustible component for instance). If they do, or if you suspect that they might, inform your local fire department.
- Use extreme caution when carrying a lit candle, holding it well away from your clothes and any combustibles that may be along your path.

#### The Law

- There are no legal standards or regulations for candles, including their make, design, safety features, location or use.
- Candles are not tested by a testing agency for safety before they are put on the market for you to buy.



#### **HEATING YOUR HOME SAFELY**

Deaths and injuries from the careless use and improper installation of heating units can be prevented! Here are some basic rules which will help you avoid the anguish of personal injury or property loss.

- Ask a heating expert to help you choose the safest, most efficient and economical unit for your home.
- Don't try install your own heating system. Leave it to a qualified technician.
- When buying a new home ask a specialist to inspect the heating system. Purchasing a new furnace and installing new wiring is expensive.

#### Solid Fuel

A solid fuel heating system uses wood, coal or fuel pellets.

- Don't choose a unit that is too large for our needs. Select a heating unit that is appropriate to the size of the floor space you want to heat.
- The unit should be properly positioned, according to the manufacturer's specifications for correct clearance.
- Install your unit close to a chimney.

#### **Electric**

Electric heating includes baseboard, portable and forced-air systems.

- Curtains should not hang over an electric baseboard heater.
- Electric portable heaters are designed to be used to supplement your main heating source. They are intended for smaller floor spaces.
- Units must be properly maintained. Frayed cords and loose plugs can cause fires.
- Never remove the third prong on a three-prong plug or bend it back to use a two-prong outlet. The third prong is a necessary ground for the appliance or heater.
- Never use extension cords to run electric heaters or any major appliance.

#### Liquid Fuel

Liquid fuels include oil, wasted oil and kerosene. Oil fuel heaters such as oil furnaces and oil-fired space heaters pose certain hazards which can be avoided.

- Fuel must be stored in an approved container/tank.
- Regular servicing by a qualified technician is necessary for the efficient and safe operation of your furnace.
- Ventilation systems for oil-fuelled units must be inspected frequently.
- Waste oil heaters are designed for use in commercial buildings and should not be installed in a residence.
- Kerosene heaters must be supervised at all times. They are dangerous to children and pets.





- Kerosene heaters should only use fuel which is specified by the manufacturer.
- Never refuel a kerosene unit indoors, or when the unit is hot.

#### Gas Fuelled

- Vents must be checked frequently to prevent blockage.
- Portable gas heaters should never be installed in poorly ventilated areas. Deadly carbon monoxide gases may build up in such areas.
- A supply of fresh air is essential when operating a gas-fired unit.

#### **Safety Tips**

- Keep all heaters a safe distance from combustibles.
- Never hang clothing on, or near the heater to dry.
- Never use your stove or clothes dryer to heat your home.
- Don't use a hair dryer under the covers to warm your bed, it could set it on fire!
- Keep bed clothes and toys away from baseboard heaters.
- Never place wet wood on top of a wood stove to dry. Keep your wood stored under cover in a dry, vented area.
- Frequently check your wood stove for defects such as cracks and swelling.
- Second-hand appliances should be checked by a qualified person before use.
- Have your local fire department check your home for safety hazards.
- Develop an emergency escape plan for your family, and practice it regularly.
- In case of fire, get out and stay out! Use a neighbour's phone to call the emergency response number in your area.





#### **DANGER! GASOLINE**

# Facts you should know to prevent explosion and fire from gasoline vapours.

Gasoline can be more dangerous than dynamite because it emits invisible, explosive vapours that ignite easily, even at low temperatures. Vapour from gasoline is also heavier than air and so travels close to the floor where it can easily come into contact with sparks from electric motors, water heaters, furnace motors and switches. Sparks or open flames can ignite vapours a great distance from their source.

By law, gasoline must be stored in safety containers which have been approved by a nationally recognized and certified agency. Approved containers display these labels prominently. However, care must be taken even though these containers are designed to prevent spillage. Minor gasoline spills should be cleaned up immediately.

Anyone using or storing gasoline should keep an appropriate Class B fire extinguisher nearby since it is designed to extinguish gasoline or other flammable liquid fires.

**NEVER** store gasoline in basements, pits or other confined areas. Gasoline must be stored in areas that are well-ventilated, free from ignition sources and in areas permitted by the National Fire Code of Canada.

- **NEVER** store or transport gasoline in glass, in metal cans with plastic parts or in plastic containers which have not been approved for these uses.
- **NEVER** smoke while you are handling gasoline or other flammable liquids.
- **NEVER** use gasoline to start your barbecue or as a cleaner or solvent.

#### In case of major spills - Get out and stay out!

- Clear people from the area immediately.
- Open exterior doors and windows to ventilate the area.
- Call the fire department from a neighbour's phone.
- Do not operate light switches, electrical appliances or any other source of sparks.
- Don't light matches or lighters, and extinguish cigarettes immediately.
- Do not re-enter the area until the hazard has been eliminated.

Call your local fire department if you have questions concerning the safe storage and use of gasoline.





#### **OUICK FACTS ON CO**

WHAT IS IT: A colourless, odourless and tasteless gas.

**SIGNS:** Stuffy air, water vapour, backdraft and soot from a fireplace.

**SYMPTOMS:** Headaches, weakness, nausea, vomiting and loss of muscle control. They can be mistaken for flu symptoms.

**EFFECTS:** If inhaled, carbon monoxide deprives the blood of oxygen. Prolonged exposure can lead to unconsciousness, brain damage or death.

**CAUSES:** Blocked or dirty vents, flues, chimneys and furnaces, as well as improper ventilation of burning fireplaces or woodstoves.

**DEATHS:** Approximately 200 per year.

**PREVENTION:** Annual inspection and cleaning of:

- Furnaces
- chimneys
- fireplaces
- other fuel-burning equipment such as gas dryers

#### Safety tips on how to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning

**INSTALL** at least one carbon monoxide detector in your home.

**ENSURE** a wood or coal-burning stove is properly installed and vented.

**DON'T** operate a gasoline-powered engine, kerosene stove or charcoal grill in a closed space.

**BARBECUE** grills should never be operated indoors.

**CHECK** clothes dryer vents that open outside the house for lint.

**CHECK** forced air fans for proper ventilation.

If you suspect carbon monoxide in your home, get out immediately and call the fire department.





#### **BURNS – THE NEED FOR CAUTION**

Every year in Canada, severe injuries and deaths occur as a result of burns and scalds. Sadly, many of these injuries affected children and could have easily been prevented. Usually, it's children's curiosity that gets them into trouble. They come across a lighter or matches, or they manage to get too close to a baseboard heater or a hot stove element.

#### **Burns from Hot Liquids**

- When bathing children, always turn cold water on first before the hot. Test the water temperature before allowing your child to get into the bathtub or shower. Consider adjusting your hot water heater to a maximum temperature of 49°C or 120°F.
- Children should not play with a hot water tap. Teach them to turn the cold water on first.
- Avoid carrying or holding children while you are drinking a hot beverage.

#### **Burns from Household Appliances**

- Turn pot handles towards the centre of the stove.
- Keep cords for electrical appliances such as deep fryers, kettles, steam irons and toasters out of the reach of children.
- Supervise children near lamps with accessible hot light bulbs.
- Store items that interest children, such as cookies, away from the immediate area around the kitchen stove.
- Keep children away from stationary and portable heaters.

#### **Lighters and Matches**

Every year hundreds of fires are started by children playing with lighters or matches. Many of these fires are caused by children under the age of five. Children as young as 18 months have caused fires by operating lighters. Disposable lighters sold by retailers must be child-resistant, but remember, child-resistant does not mean childproof. Store lighters out of sight and out of the reach of children and do not remove the child safety devices from the lighter. Remember to:

- Teach children that lighters and matches are not toys.
- Instruct young children to tell an adult if they find lighters or matches.
- Set a good example: always use lighters and matches responsibly.
- Install and maintain smoke alarms.
- Supervise your children's play.

Prevention is the best way to keep your home safe from fire. For more information on fire prevention, contact your local Fire Department.







# SMOKE ALARMS –LOCATION, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND CLEANING

- Read and follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully.
- For best performance, an alarm should be mounted on the ceiling near the centre of the room, hall or stairway, and at the head of each stairway leading to an occupied area.
- Optimum location for wall mounts is at least 15 cm (6 inches) from the ceiling but not more than 30 cm (19 inches) from it.
- Avoid installing where the temperature is less than 5oC (41°F) or exceeds 48°C (119°F)
- Keep alarms away from doors and windows.
- Never locate an alarm in front of an air register, fans or vents.
- Keep alarms at least 60 cm (2 feet) from any corner.
- Don't recess an alarm.
- Smoke alarms in rooms with ceiling slopes greater than 30 cm (one foot) rise per 2.4 m (eight feet) horizontally should be located on the high side of the room.
- Avoid locating an alarm at the peak of an "A" frame type ceiling.
- Never paint a smoke alarm.
- Keep alarms 60 to 90 cm (two to three feet) away from light fixtures.

# When having an alarm connected into the electrical wiring system of a house you should:

- Use a qualified electrical contractor.
- Never install the alarm in the electrical circuit except at the main panel. Alarms must also never be installed in a circuit connected to an on/off switch.
- Check the alarm when installation is complete.

#### Mark your calendar: Testing & Cleaning

Test your smoke alarm monthly and clean it every 6 months. Mark it on your calendar so that you don't forget. Things to remember when testing your smoke alarm:

- Ensure that power is being transmitted to the alarm and that it will activate in the presence of smoke.
- Test your smoke alarm by pressing the test button.
- Even alarms with a pilot light that indicate power is being transmitted, should be tested regularly.
- Battery-operated smoke alarms will warn you when batteries need replacing. Despite this, make it a habit to change the batteries yearly.
- When you've been away from home for a few days, check your alarm on your return to ensure it is working properly.
- Remember, your smoke alarm can't protect you if the batteries have been removed or a plug has been disconnected.
- The lifespan of a typical smoke alarm is about 10 years, but some models last as little as 5 years.
- To clean the alarm, open the cover and gently vacuum the interior of it. Frequently, the alarm will sound while the unit is being cleaned.







## WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT SMOKE ALARMS

(Please circle one or more of the correct statements)

1.	The minimum number of smoke alarms needed in a home are:			
	a. one on each		b.	one for the main floor
	c. none		d.	two
2.	The best place to lo	cate smoke alarms in your l	nome is:	
		ing outside sleeping area	b.	dining area
		nt entrance to your home	d.	none
3.		be expected to last for:		
	a. 8-12years	-	b.	13- 19years
	c. 20-25 years		d.	indefinitely
4.	Smoke alarms need	to be tested to:		ž
	a. make sure th	ey're working	b.	check if the battery has power
		smoke alarm is faulty	d.	a, b & c
<b>5.</b>	Smoke alarms shou			*
	a. once a year		b.	weekly
	c. monthly		d.	b. & c.
6.	•	est a smoke alarm is to:		
	a. burn toast		b.	use smoke from a burning string
	c. push the test	button	d.	use an open flame
7.	Smoke alarms shou	ld be cleaned:		
	a. once a year		b.	twice a year
	c. monthly		d.	weekly
8.	Cleaning of smoke	alarms is:		
	a. necessary to	remove dust,	c.	required by law
	grease and c	obwebs		
	b. unnecessary		d.	to make the alarm look nice
9.	When making a fire	e escape plan:		
	a. parents shou	ld make the plan and inform	children later	
	b. involve the 6	entire family to get everyone's	s opinion	
	c. consider the	needs of the handicapped, in:	fants, etc	
	d. b.& c.			
10.	After making your	fire escape plan:		
	a. file it away		b.	practice fire escape plan with family
	c. post it in a p	rominent place	d.	b. & c.
11.		arm sounds to alert you to a	fire danger	:
	a. get complete	ely dressed	b.	get everyone out quickly, and stay out
	c. gather valua	bles before leaving	d.	disconnect it
	. =		ON 03 40 77	

#### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON SMOKE ALARMS

1	a. one on each level	6.	b. use smoke from a burning string
2.	<ul> <li>a. hallway ceiling outside sleeping area</li> </ul>	7.	a. once a year
3.	a. 8-12 years	8.	a. necessary to remove dust, grease and cobwebs
4.	d.	9.	d.
5.	d. weekly or monthly	10.	d.
		11.	b. get everyone out quickly, and stay out.

#### **BABYSITTER'S FIRE SAFETY GUIDE**

As the babysitter, you are responsible for the children in your care. Here are some important points you need to know if there's a fire emergency in the home where you babysit.

#### Before the parents leave

- Write down the complete address and phone number of the place where you are babysitting and phone numbers for:
  - Fire, Police, Ambulance & Emergency Services often one number 9-1-1.
  - Where the parents can be reached.
  - Neighbour(s).
- Keep this information in your pocket so that it's with you at all times and handy in case
  of an emergency.

#### Plan Your Escape

If there is a fire while you are in charge, you must know what to do:

- Is there a fire escape plan? If not, develop one.
- Identify all escape routes.
- Find at least two ways out of each room.
- Plan how you and the children will escape safely.
- Decide on an outside meeting place.
- Ask for a demonstration of the smoke alarm.

#### **Guide to Fire Safety**

The best way to keep fire safe is to be watchful of the children in your charge:

- Never leave children unsupervised.
- Check on sleeping children regularly.
- Keep matches and lighters out of their reach.
- Do not light candles while babysitting.
- Don't smoke on the job.
- Keep children away from the stove, hot liquids, electric lamps and space heaters.
- Keep space heaters at least 1 metre (40 inches) from drapes, furniture and bedding.
- Cook safely and only if you have permission.
- Turn pot handles in to avoid children knocking them over or pulling them down.
- Smother a pan fire with a lid. Never use water.
- Make sure you know what cooking materials can be used for the microwave.







#### **Burn Prevention**

Always test hot foods and liquids before feeding.

#### Fire Safety: What to do, because fire spreads fast - don't delay!

- If your clothes catch fire, STOP, DROP & ROLL on the floor to smother the flames.
- Cool minor burns with cold water. If your skin is blistered, charred or dead white, get emergency help immediately.
- When you see flames, smell smoke or hear the smoke alarm, get everybody out of the house.
- Feel the door first. If it isn't hot, open it very slowly.
- If there is fire or smoke use another exit.
- Crawl low under smoke the air near the floor is safer to breathe.
- If you cannot escape, close the door and seal around it with cloth to prevent smoke from entering the room.
- Always use the stairs and never the elevators.
- Designate a meeting place a safe distance from the house and make sure everyone is there.
- Take the children to a neighbour.
- Phone the emergency number from the neighbour's home.
- Give the complete address, describe the situation and inform the operator if anyone is still inside.
- Stay on the phone until you are told to hang up.
- Do not go back to the house for any reason.

#### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS:**

POLICE: AMBULANCE:
PARENTS: NEIGHBOUR:
THIS ADDRESS

FIRE:





#### **SAFETY FOR SENIORS**

The two leading causes of fire deaths and injuries among older adults are smoking materials and the misuse of portable space heaters.

#### Tips to Remember

- Smokers should have a designated area away from upholstered materials, such as the kitchen table.
- Never smoke in bed while reading it is too easy to fall asleep and print materials are highly flammable.
- Sleep with the bedroom door closed in order to provide more time to escape if a fire occurs.
- Keep space heaters well-ventilated and at least three feet away from flammable materials. Unplug space heaters when not in use.
- Extension cords are for temporary use only and should not be used with a space heater or electric blanket.
- Never run electrical cords under a carpet or rug.

#### Smoke Alarms can save your life!

Smoke alarms are inexpensive and easy to install. For assistance with the location and installation of smoke alarms, call your local fire department see and visit our 'Smoke Alarms' [link to Smoke Alarm fact sheet] fact sheet.

- Ensure there is a working smoke alarm on every floor of the home and outside every sleeping area.
- Have a friend or relative test your smoke alarm while you are asleep to ensure you can hear it.
- Once a month, test the battery by pushing the test button and drift smoke from a snuffedout candle into the alarm.
- Once a year, change the battery.
- To clean the smoke alarm, open the cover and gently vacuum the unit with a soft brush attachment.
- Replace smoke alarms if they are more than 10 years old.

#### Fire Escape Planning saves lives:

- Develop and practice a fire escape plan. Be sure to include all hallways and stairs.
- Know: (1) two ways out of every room (2) how to escape from all levels of your home.
- Ensure all doors and windows can be unlocked or opened.

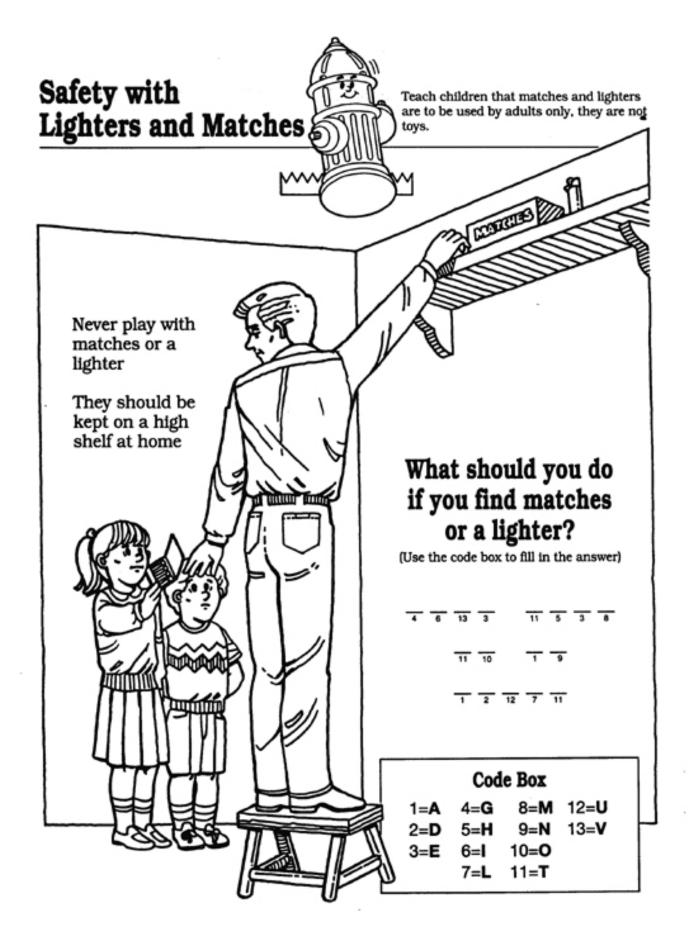




# In case of fire - GET OUT AND STAY OUT – never go back into a burning building.

- Crawl low near the floor to the nearest exit maintaining contact with the wall.
- Test the door by feeling it with the back of your hand. If it is hot, do not open. Use an alternative route.
- If the door and knob are cool, stay low with your shoulder against the door while opening slowly. Be ready to close the door if smoke and heat rush in.
- If trapped, put as many closed doors as possible between you and the fire, and seal all cracks in doors and windows with towels or bedding.
- If your clothing catches fire, stop where you are, drop gently to the ground and cover your face with your hands while rolling back-and-forth to put out the flames.
- Cool minor burns with cold water.









# Fire Escape

Practice your fire escape plan with your family. Memorize the emergency number in your area. Practice responding calmly and correctly.

In case of a real fire



Maintain your smoke alarms



Family discussion





Call out to others



Get out <u>fast</u>, closing doors behind you Use stairs, not the elevator



Call for help from a neighbor's home Never go back inside a burning house

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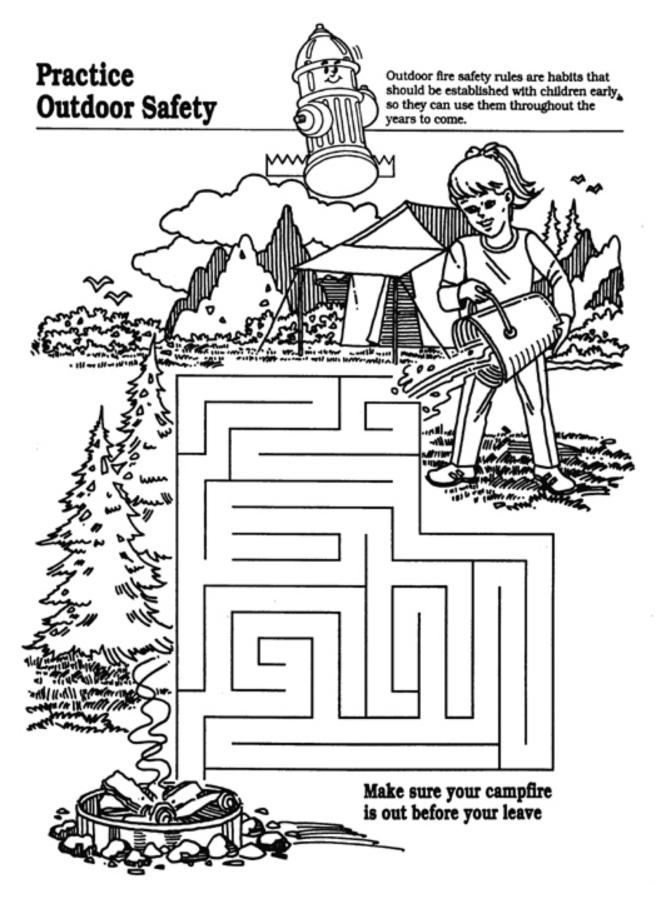




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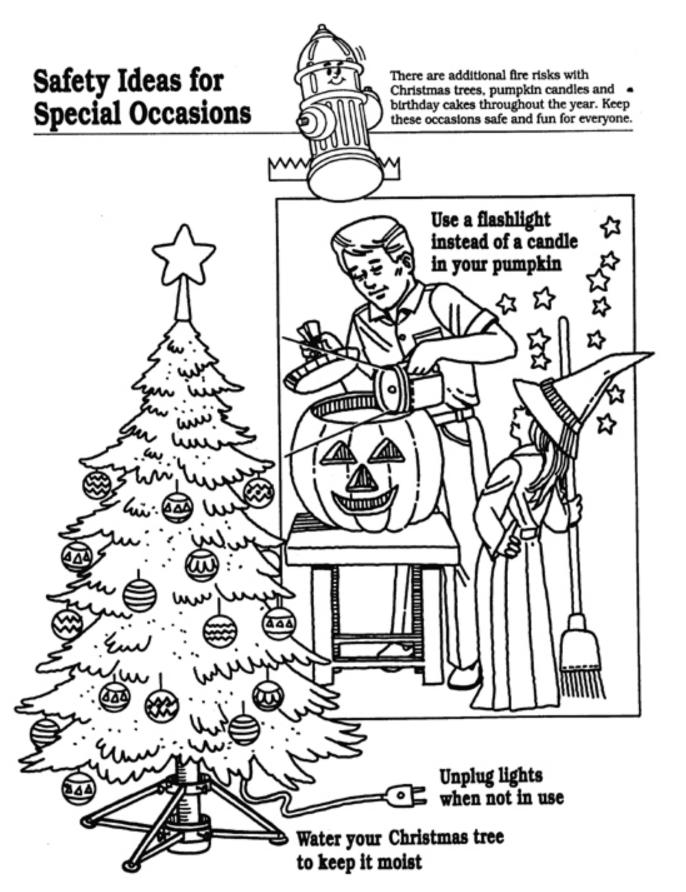




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#### MODERN HOUSES BURN FASTER

#### Public encouraged to visit <a href="www.3minutedrill.alberta.ca">www.3minutedrill.alberta.ca</a>

Research over three decades has shown that modern homes may be making house fires more deadly than ever before.

Newer homes and furnishings are made with more synthetics which make fires ignite and burn faster. They also release more toxic gases when burned. Most fire victims die from smoke or toxic gases and not from actual burns. Deadly conditions are reached much more quickly now than in the 1970s when more natural materials were used in home and furnishings.

Over thirty years ago, an important study conducted tests in actual homes with sizes and floor plans, furniture and items, and smoke alarms on the market. That report concluded smoke alarms generally provided the necessary escape time for different fire types and locations. This research led to the popular use of smoke alarms in residential settings

A more recent 2005 study found a troubling difference with the previous investigation. The amount of safe escape time was consistently shorter and the fire growth rates were faster. It is thought that synthetic materials currently found in homes contributed to this change. The study concluded that because fires could be more aggressive, the time needed to escape home fires has been reduced from approximately 17 minutes to as little as three minutes.

This gives less time for occupants to escape a fire and is shorter than the seven minute response time target for fire services. This disparity can mean the difference between life and death.

In May 2008, Alberta Municipal Affairs launched a public education and awareness campaign to make citizens aware of the three-minute window of safety in a house fire and the seven minute fire services response time. In rural areas served by volunteer fire departments, the response times can be expected to be longer than the seven minutes expected of career fire departments. The public is encouraged to plan for a three-minute evacuation in case of a fire.

The campaign serves as a reminder of our personal responsibility for fire safety: the prevention of fires in the first place; the detection of smoke and fire with working smoke alarms as a second line of defense; and evacuation to safety by having a well-rehearsed fire escape plan as the third and most important action. The TV commercial is designed to motivate the public to visit a unique, interactive website, www.3minutedrill.alberta.ca This site contains easily understood fire prevention and safety tips using a model house in cross-section. In addition, it provides smoke alarm and escape planning information.



(With permission from the Alberta Fire Commissioner's Office)





#### FIRE PREVENTION WEEK EVALUATION FORM

We wish you a successful and enjoyable 2012 Fire Prevention Week. In order for us to plan for the 2013 Kit, we would appreciate your feedback and suggestions to make next year's kit the best it can be.

Please help us by completing this form and sending it to: Peter Adamakos, Office Manager, Fire Prevention Canada or by calling (613) 749-3844. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Language used:	English	French	Both
Overall usefulness of the Kit:	Excellent	Good	Poor
Material format:	Excellent	Good	Poor
Content:	Excellent	Good	Poor
Ease of duplication:	Excellent	Good	Poor
Most Used Piece(s):			
Suggestions:			

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM





