

Fire Safety Checklist



- ✓ Keep baseboard and portable heaters away from anything that can burn; furniture, curtains, papers, clothing, etc.
- ✓ Make sure the fireplace is equipped with a sturdy metal screen. Check the chimney before each heating season and make repairs as necessary.
- ✓ Use extension cords and multi-plug adapters as little as possible. Extension cords should not be tacked to walls, under rugs, or through doorways.
- ✓ While cooking on the stove or in the oven, never leave food unattended. If you have to leave the kitchen for a short time while cooking, set a timer or take something with you to remind you that the stove or oven is on.
- ✓ The stove and oven should be kept clean of grease and spilt food. In the event of a fire, the best response is to put a lid on it.
- ✓ Matches, lighters, and other smoking materials should be kept out of the reach of children, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- ✓ Always place candles in non-tip candleholders before you light them. Keep them out of the reach of children. Extinguish candles before you leave a room or go to bed, as unattended candles start many fires each year.
- ✓ No smoking in bed should be a rule in your home. Drowsy or medicated people may forget lit materials and start a fire.
- ✓ Be sure smoke alarms are installed on a ceiling or high on a wall outside of the bedroom(s) on each level of your home.
- ✓ Once a year install new batteries in your smoke alarms and test them once each month.
- ✓ Be sure your family knows what to do if there is a fire. Prepare and Escape Plan and have a home fire drill so your family can practice your escape.

Discussing how to respond to an emergency can help reduce fear. It is critical that everyone recognizes the sound of the smoke alarms and knows two safe ways out of each room. *When the smoke alarm sounds, every second counts.*