

General Fire Safety

- Post emergency numbers near every telephone.
- Make sure your home address is clearly posted where firefighters can see it.
- Keep matches and lighters hidden and out of children's reach.
- Use candles that are in glass holders or that have glass chimneys.
- Place candles on firm surfaces, out of children's reach and away from anything that can catch fire.
- Blow out candles when leaving a room or going to bed.
- Never use the fireplace without a screen in front of it.
- Make sure the fireplace fire is out before leaving the home or going to bed.
- Store cleaning products, aerosol cans, and flammable items away from the furnace and other sources of heat.
- If you smoke, never do so in bed.

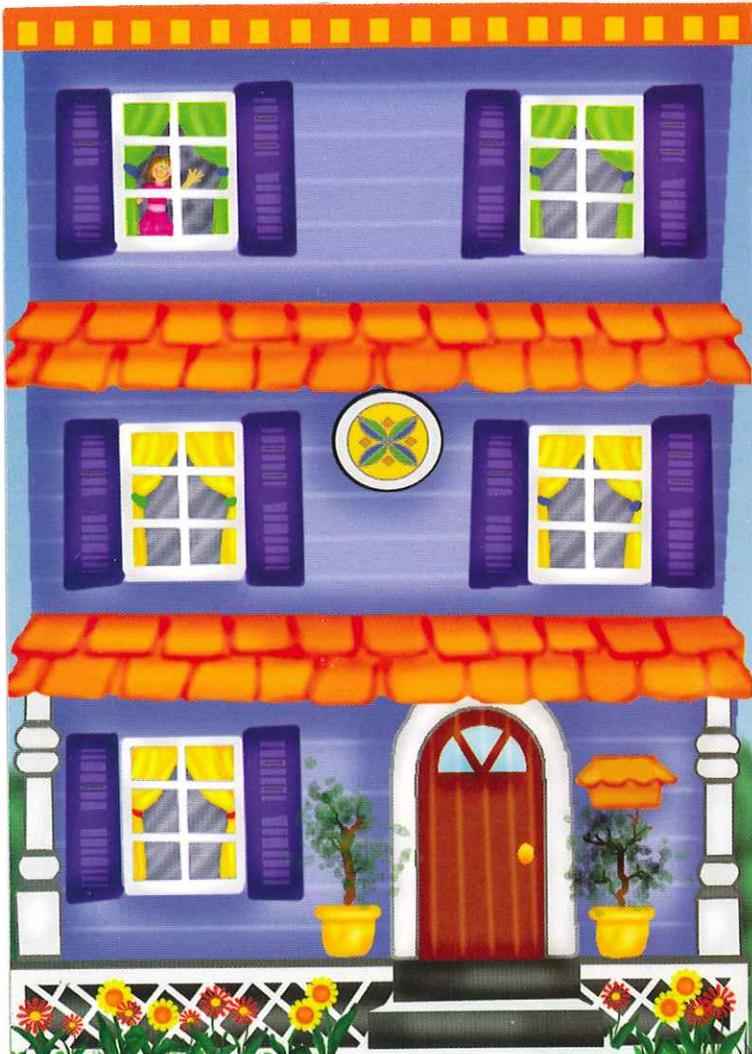
Family Fire Escape Plan

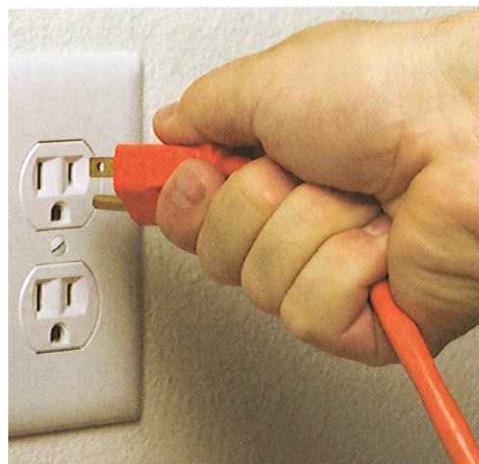
- Create a family fire escape plan for your home. Draw a floor plan of every level of your home and draw arrows to mark two ways out of every room.
- Designate a place outside where family members should meet in case of a fire.
- Make sure all exits from rooms are clear and nothing blocks them.
- Check to see that everyone in the family can open escape windows.
- Practice your family fire escape plan often.

How to Escape a Fire

1. If you smell smoke or hear an alarm, get out fast! Don't stop to take anything.
2. Crawl low under the smoke. The air is easier to breathe near the floor.
3. Before opening a door, test it with the back of your hand. If it's warm, use the other exit from the room.
4. If you can't get out the other exit, call 9-1-1 if possible to tell firefighters where you are. Wave a light-colored towel or clothing in the window and yell for help.
5. If the door is not warm, go through it and close it behind you.
6. If you are upstairs and the hallway is clear of fire, crawl backwards down the stairs and out the nearest door.
7. If your clothes catch fire, STOP where you are, DROP to the ground, and ROLL with your hands over your face until the flames are out.
8. Once you are outside, stay outside! Don't go back in for anything.
9. Go to your family meeting place and wait for your family.
10. Call 9-1-1 to report a fire only after you are outside. The only time to call from inside a burning building is when you can't get out.

Sacramento Fire Department
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Visit us at www.sacfire.org





Throughout the Home

Ensure electrical cords are in good condition — not frayed or cracked. Install a smoke alarm in every bedroom, each sleeping area, and on every floor of your home. Test your smoke alarms monthly. About 70 percent of reported home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. Automatic fire sprinklers can contain and help to extinguish a fire in less time than it would take the fire department to arrive on the scene. If you are building or remodeling your home, consider installing a residential fire sprinkler system. Have a professional inspect your electrical system to make sure that it meets code requirements.



Escape Basics

In a real fire, you must move quickly, carefully, and calmly. Planning and practicing a home fire escape plan will help your family know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds.

- Make sure your home has working smoke alarms and everyone knows the sound it makes and will be awakened by the sound of the smoke alarm.
- Sit down with everyone in your home and talk about the best ways to get out quickly in the event of a fire. Make a plan for anyone in your home who might need assistance escaping.
- Plan two ways out of every room and pick an outside meeting place.
- Practice your home fire escape drill at least twice a year.



Sound the alarm—it's time again for the **Great American Fire Drill!** NFPA is asking kids and families all across the United States to practice their home fire escape plans. Let's get started!

- Pick a date — anytime in October.
- Make your escape plan.
- Sound the alarm.

Serious Fun

Practicing your escape plan can be lots of fun. But don't forget that this is serious business. Fire can grow and spread through your home very quickly. When the smoke alarm sounds, you need to act right away and know exactly what to do, which takes planning and practice.

Go to www.sparky.org to make your drill count!



CUTE. CURIOUS. CARELESS.

Meet The Uh-Ohs! Go to: www.nfpa4kids.org



Visit us online at:
www.firepreventionweek.org
www.nfpa.org • www.sparky.org

Order at www.nfpacatalog.org or call: 1-800-344-3555

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One Batterymarch Park • Quincy, MA 02169-7471

Printed in U.S.A.

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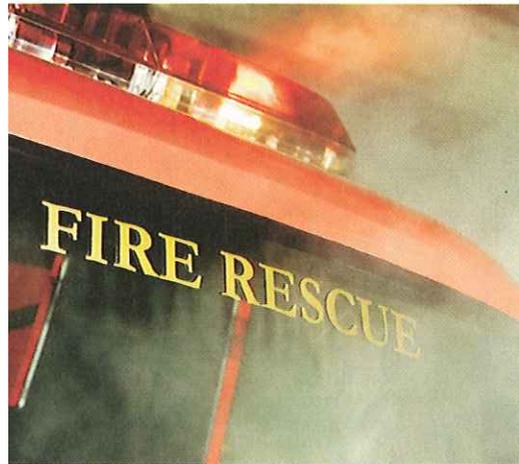
Item # CAMP08

It's Fire Prevention Week 2008

PREVENT HOME FIRES

October 5-11, 2008





ber and January are the peak
s for home fires and home fire
. Home structure fires are more
o happen around the dinner
between 5:00 and 8:00 PM. The
y causes of fires in the home
oking (which leads to the most
nd injuries), heating equipment,
ectrical. Smoking materials and
y equipment are leading
of home fire deaths.

Roughly 80 Percent of U.S. Fire Deaths Occur in the Home!

The best way to prevent fires in your home is to make fire safety part of your daily life.



Be Careful When You Cook

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, broiling, or grilling food.

The leading cause of kitchen fires is unattended cooking. Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking. To extinguish a pan fire, slide a lid over the pan and turn off the burner. Allow the pan to completely cool before removing the lid. To extinguish an oven fire, keep the oven door closed and turn off the stove. If you have a small stovetop fire and don't feel comfortable attempting to extinguish the fire, get out of the home and call the fire department for help.

Stay Safe and Warm

- Have your central heating equipment serviced every year by a professional.
- Have your chimney cleaned and inspected before each heating season.
- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet from anything that can burn.
- Turn off space heaters when you leave the room or go to bed.

Space heaters account for one-third of home heating fires and three-fourths of home heating fire deaths. Failure to clean chimneys is the leading cause of chimney fires.

Smokers Should Smoke Outside the Home

- Encourage smokers to smoke outside.
- Provide large, deep, sturdy ashtrays.
- Keep matches and lighters in a locked cabinet out of the reach of children.

Smoking is a leading cause of fire deaths. Smoking outside will prevent a fire from being started in the home by a discarded cigarette. Fire-safe cigarettes are available in many states. For more information on fire-safe cigarettes visit:

www.firesafecigarettes.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
VISIT US AT:
WWW.SACFIRE.ORG



**SACRAMENTO
FIRE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER**

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**Sacramento Fire Department
Mission Statement**

*Commitment to Excellence in
Enhancing and Protecting Life, Property,
and the Environment.*

A critical component of this newsletter is to ensure that correct information is provided. Please notify the editor of any errors, omissions, corrections, etc. so that they can be addressed in subsequent issues.

IT'S AN OPEN HOUSE!

***The Sacramento Fire Department
invites you to join us in celebrating the
75th Anniversary of Fire Station 4!***

Antique fire equipment displays, drum and bagpipe performances, refreshments, and more!

**Saturday, October 25, 2008
11am - 3pm
3145 Granada Way**



CFL Disposal = Hazardous Waste

Q: How do I dispose of those new fluorescent light bulbs? Don't they have mercury in them? -MG

A: Switching from traditional light bulbs to Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs) will help conserve electricity. CFLs are made of glass and contain a very small amount of mercury sealed within the glass tubing. Like household batteries, you must treat CFLs as household hazardous waste. To dispose of the CFLs and/or batteries, call Solid Waste Customer Service (916) 808-5454 to schedule a pick-up or you may drop off the items at one of the many convenient City locations. For a list of the locations, visit www.cityofsacramento.org/utilities/solid-waste-recycling/residential.



Do you have questions about your Fire Department or the services we provide? Email your questions to: mbasurto@sfd.cityofsacramento.org. We'll do our best to answer them in future issues of this newsletter.

HOLIDAY HAZARDS

Each year fires occur during the holiday season that injure thousands of people and cause millions of dollars in damage. The Sacramento Fire Department encourages you to take the following life-saving steps to help ensure a safe and happy holiday. Be sure to use common sense and always have a responsible adult present when undertaking any activity that can be dangerous.

Halloween:

- Walk on sidewalks, not in the street and look both ways before crossing.
- Wear light-colored or reflective-type clothing.
- Carry a flashlight to light your way.
- Costumes should only be made of flame-retardant materials. Avoid loose, flammable clothing.
- Use face paint rather than masks or things that will cover eyes.
- Grown-ups should inspect treats before eating. Small, hard pieces of candy are a choking hazard for young children.
- Use battery-powered lights for jack-o-lanterns, not candles.
- Keep decorations away from sources of heat.



Turkey Fryers:

- Always use fryers outside away from the home and anything flammable.
- Only set the fryer up on a hard flat surface. (Not a wood deck.)
- Make sure the turkey is not frozen and completely thawed out and not wet.
- Do not overfill with oil.
- Keep a fire extinguisher close by.
- Only a responsible adult should operate the fryer.
- Fryers are very hot. Always handle with cooking mitts and wear safety goggles.
- Keep children and pets away from the fryer.

Christmas Trees:

- When buying a live tree, be sure to pick a fresh tree with needles that are firmly attached.
- Do not put your live tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks.
- Keep the live tree well watered.
- Make sure artificial trees are flame-retardant
- Do not place your tree near a heat source.
- Never place a tree so that it blocks an exit.
- Never use candles on the tree.
- Only use UL Listed holiday lights.
- Always unplug lights before going to bed or leaving your home.
- Never put tree branches or needles in a fireplace or woodburning stove.

REMEMBER:

***Fire Never Takes a Holiday.
Taking simple precautions can
make your holiday celebrations
safe and memorable.***

BY THE NUMBERS

DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF THE YEAR (APRIL THRU JUNE) THE SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO 15,658 CALLS. THAT'S AN AVERAGE OF 172 A DAY!

MEDICAL CALLS:	10606
GOOD INTENT:	921
FALSE ALARMS:	842
FIRES:	750
SERVICE CALLS:	746
OTHER:	1793

HOME FIRE SAFETY TIPS

What causes home fires? Stoves? Candles? Space Heaters? In most cases, it's not "things" that cause fires, it's usually people forgetting the right things to do. The following fire safety tips, provided by the National Fire Protection Association, can help you remember what to do to help prevent fires in your home.

KITCHEN FIRE SAFETY

Between 2002 and 2005, cooking fires were the #1 cause of home fires and home fire injuries. Be sure to:

- Always stay in the kitchen when frying, broiling, boiling, or grilling foods.
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop, like potholders, towels, plastic containers, paper or curtains.
- Wear short, close-fitting, or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire.
- Always use dry oven mitts or pot holders. A wet oven mitt can cause a scald burn.
- Turn pot handles inward from the stove's edge and use back burners when you have a choice.



HEATING FIRE SAFETY

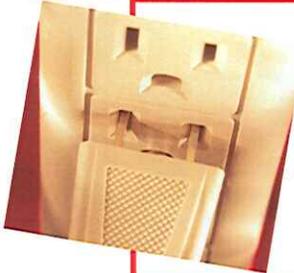
Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fires during the months of December, January and February. Be sure to:

- Keep things that can burn at least 3 feet away from fireplaces, portable heaters, and space heaters.
- Plug electric-powered space heaters directly into an outlet with sufficient capacity and never into an extension cord.
- Turn off space heaters when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Never use a cooking appliance to heat your home.
- Make sure your fireplace has a sturdy metal screen to contain flying sparks.
- Allow ashes to cool completely before disposing of them. Store removed ashes in tightly covered metal containers, never in boxes or bags.
- Get heating equipment and your chimney professionally serviced.

ELECTRICAL FIRE SAFETY

Electricity is a powerful force and is also a frequent factor in home fires. Be sure to:

- Avoid overloading outlets. Plug only one high-wattage appliance into each outlet at a time.
- Use bulbs that match the lamp's recommended wattage.
- Place lamps on level surfaces and away from things that can burn.
- Replace or repair loose or frayed cords on all electrical devices.
- Avoid running extension cords across doorways or under carpets.
- Allow sufficient air space around TVs, stereos, and computers to prevent overheating.



CANDLE FIRE SAFETY

More than half of all candle fires started when something that could burn, such as furniture, bedding, curtains or decorations, was too close to the candle. Be sure to:

- Keep all candles at least one foot away from things that can burn.
- Always put candles in sturdy holders that won't tip over and large enough to collect wax.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended. If you leave, put them out.
- Never leave a child alone with an open flame.
- Use flashlights, not candles for emergency lighting when the power fails.
- Avoid using candles in the bedroom and other sleeping areas.



GASOLINE SAFETY

Many people don't realize that gasoline gives off vapors that can spread quickly and be ignited by even a tiny spark. Be sure to:

- Store gasoline outside the home in an approved container. Use it outdoors.
- Keep gasoline away from devices that are hot or might give off a spark.
- Use and/or store gasoline away from devices that have a pilot flame or could spark.

Sac Fire News

SACRAMENTO
FIRE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Fire Prevention Week is October 5-11, 2008

Fire Prevention Week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire, which began on October 8th and continued into and did most of its damage on October 9, 1871. More than 250 people were killed while 100,000 people were left homeless. The fire destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres.

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation, and since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9th falls.

Fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally and homes are where people are at greatest risk from fire. The Sacramento Fire Department is dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education and is joining the National Fire Protection Association, the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week since 1922, in its fire prevention campaign to highlight the importance of fire safety education. The 2008 Fire Prevention Week theme, **"Prevent Home Fires!"**, serves to remind us all of the simple actions we can take to stay safer from fire.

It's Fire Prevention Week

PREVENT HOME FIRES

October 5-11, 2008
firepreventionweek.org



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ON NOVEMBER 2, 2008
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS...



CHANGE YOUR CLOCK,
CHANGE YOUR BATTERY.

IS YOUR NUMBER UP?

Delays in responding to an emergency can occur if an address is not clearly marked. Following are some tips that can help us find you when seconds count:

- # Address numbers are in good repair and clearly visible from the street at any time of the day.
- # Numbers are at least 4-inches tall.
- # Numbers are a contrasting color from the house. If the house is brown, don't have brown numbers.
- # Bushes and shrubs are trimmed so they don't hide the address.