American Red Cross

Fire Safety Tips

Prevent Home Fires

General Safety Habits
- Keep flammable items at least three feet away from anything that gets hot.
- Never smoke in bed.
- Keep matches and lighters away from children.

Cooking
- Keep flammable items like towels and clothing away from the stove.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen and get training from the fire department on how to use it.

Portable Heaters
- Keep blankets, curtains, furniture and other flammable items away from heaters.
- Plug heaters directly into a wall socket and unplug when not in use.

Electricity
- Never overload electrical outlets.
- Avoid running cords under carpets and furniture.

Practice Home Fire Safety

Smoke Alarms
- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, including sleeping areas.
- Test and dust smoke alarms monthly, change the batteries yearly.
- Replace smoke alarms every 10 years.

Fire Escape Drills
- Make a fire escape plan with two exits out of every room.
- Practice your plan twice a year.
- Identify an outside meeting place to gather after escaping.
- Teach children that firefighters are their friends who can help.

In Case of a Fire, Follow Your Escape Plan
- Crawl low under smoke.
- Feel doors closed. If the door is hot, use your second way out.
- Go to your outside meeting place and then call for help.
- Remember to GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL 9-1-1 or your local emergency phone number.

For more information, visit redcross.org/my chapter