

EVERYBODY OUT!



Help your household members plan and practise their escape from fire.

- Get together and draw a home floor plan, showing two ways out of each room (including windows).
- Make sure everyone in the household know the escape routes and can open doors, windows, and security bars so they can escape quickly without help.
- Agree on a place for everyone to meet outside after they've escaped.
- Have everyone memorize the fire department's phone number so someone can call from a neighbour's phone or a portable phone.
- Choose a meeting place.
- When you hear a smoke alarm sound, get out immediately, go to your meeting place, and stay out until the fire department says it's safe to go back inside.
- If you live in an apartment building, learn the building's evacuation plan, and use the stairs (never an elevator) during a fire.

- Practise your escape plan at least twice a year. Have everyone – including young children – participate.

SOME SURVIVAL RULES EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW

- Close doors behind you as you escape to prevent fire and smoke from spreading.
- If you have to escape through smoke, crawl on your hands and knees, keeping your head 30 to 60 cm above the floor, where the air will be cleanest.
- Before you open a door, test the door knob and the spaces around the door with the back of your hand. If the door is warm, try another escape route. If it's cool, open it slowly. Close it quickly if smoke pours through.

Visit us online at www.safecommunities.com

Our Canadian Supporters



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TEAM UP FOR FIRE SAFETY™



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
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This is one team that could save your life

If a fire ever strikes your home, you can be sure local fire fighters will respond, immediately. But they need our help in keeping communities safe from fire. The more people know about preventing and surviving an unwanted fire, the better off we'll all be. That's why the theme of this year's Fire Prevention Week is "Team Up for Fire Safety." The campaign focuses on safety lessons that everyone can learn: installing and testing smoke alarms, practising home escape plans, and hunting for home hazards.

How can you be part of the team? Easy, you're already part of one. At work, at school, in your neighbourhood, anywhere you live, work, or play in a group is an opportunity to work together to learn how to protect your home and family from fire.

During the last year, we've become more aware than ever about the importance of feeling safe and secure. But the same homes in which so many of us seek refuge are not free of fire risk. By teaming up for fire safety, we can make our homes safer, and ensure that our families are better prepared than ever to prevent or survive a home fire. So what are you waiting for? Join the team!



Keeping your home safe from fire is everybody's responsibility.

- Never leave cooking food or burning candles unattended
- Keep space heaters at least one metre away from anything that can burn.
- Screen your fireplace to contain sparks.
- Have your heating system serviced by a pro once a year.
- Have your chimney inspected once a year and cleaned if necessary.
- Keep matches and lighters locked up high, away from children.
- Have smokers use large, deep, non-tip ashtrays.
- Keep your stove top clean and free from clutter.
- Keep curtains, rubbish, and anything else that can burn at least one metre away from your stove.
- Keep counter-top appliances in good repair (cords too).
- Make sure your fuses or circuit breakers match the loads on your home's electrical wiring.
- Protect bathroom and kitchen electrical outlets with ground-fault circuit-interrupters (GFCIs).



Be sure everyone in your home knows the sound of the smoke alarms.

- Install working smoke alarms on every floor of your home (including the basement) and inside or near every sleeping area.
- Install ceiling-mounted alarms at least 10 cm away from the nearest wall. Install wall-mounted alarms 10 to 30 cm away from the ceiling.
- Test your smoke alarms (use the test button) once a month.
- Replace batteries once a year or whenever battery power is low.
- Never "borrow" a smoke alarm battery.
- Vacuum your smoke alarms regularly.
- Never paint a smoke alarm.
- Replace any smoke alarm that's more than 10 years old.
- Make sure everyone at home knows the sound of your smoke alarms. Newer models feature a universal signal pattern called "temporal three" — three beeps followed by a one-and-a-half-second pause.