

JB MDL Office of Emergency Management (OEM)



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MONTHLY



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Fast facts about fire:

- In 2 minutes a fire can become life threatening...in 5 minutes an entire house could be in flames.
- The heat produced by a fire can range from 100 degrees at floor level and rise to 600 degrees at eye level. Inhaling air this hot will scorch your lungs.
- In approximately 5 minutes a room can get so hot that all items in the room will ignite at once. This is called a flashover.
- Almost three-quarters of Americans do have an escape plan; however, more than half never practiced it.
- Breathing in small amounts of smoke and gas from a fire can make a person drowsy, disoriented and short of breath. The fumes of a fire are odorless, and colorless which could prevent you from waking up in time if asleep.
- Smoke alarms can increase your chance of surviving a fire by 50%
- Smoke alarm batteries should be replaced twice a year, and the smoke alarm replaced every ten years.

Fire Prevention Week

U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 1,298,000 fires in 2014.

This resulted in 275 civilian fire fatalities, and injuring 15,775. Resulting in an estimated \$1.5 billion in property damages. Most fires start in the kitchen while cooking. Other leading causes of fires result from discarded cigarettes, candles, sparks from fire places without proper screens, chimneys, or heating appliances. To help ensure your family remains safe, below are some tips on fire safety.

Preplanning-

-Ensure that there are two ways out of each room. In the event that one way is blocked, the secondary exit might be a window onto another roof top, or an escape ladder from the second story window.

- Test all windows, make sure they are not stuck shut, and that the screens can be taken out quickly or the security bars can be properly opened. If there are security bars on the window, practice with all family members so everyone is aware of how to quickly and safely remove them and exit the house.

-Practice twice a year finding your way out of the house with your eyes closed. In the event of a fire, it will be dark, causing to you to possibly becoming disoriented.

During a Fire-

-Make sure that you are crawling low under the smoke when exiting your home.

- When the smoke alarm sounds, family members need to be aware that they need to exit the house and go to the designated rally point for your family.

-If a door needs to be opened to exit, feel the door knob and door to see if it's hot, then open it slowly. There may be thick smoke or fire on the other side.

- Stop, Drop, and Roll if your clothing catches on fire.

Test your Fire Knowledge at <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/fire-prevention-week/fire-prevention-week-quiz>

For more information on fire safety please visit www.nfpa.org or contact the JB MDL Fire Department at (609) 754-1412.



Fire Extinguishers

Fire Extinguishers are every home's first defense against fires. They should be kept in the areas most likely to have a fire incident such as the kitchen and garage. Ensure that everyone in the home knows how to use them. An easy way to remember the proper way to use an extinguisher on a fire is the acronym P.A.S.S.

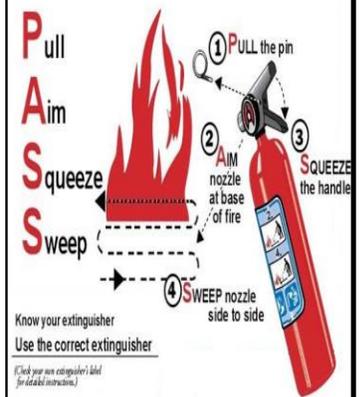
Pull– pull the pin from the handle of the extinguisher.

Aim– aim the extinguisher towards the fire.

Squeeze– squeeze the handle

Sweep– sweep the extinguisher nozzle back and forth across the base of the fire.

To operate an extinguisher:



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