

Attention all West Chester residents and homeowners. The West Chester Fire Department is happy to announce that the safe house will be available for use all summer long.

The West Chester Fire Department Safe House was graciously purchased by the West Chester Rotary Club and donated to the fire department to educate the residents of Union Township.

The safe house consists of a 32-foot travel trailer converted into a two-story home. On the first floor there is a fully operational kitchen featuring a stove, oven and microwave. Important lessons in fire and kitchen safety are taught here as well as when and how to use a fire extinguisher.

The living room has all the comforts of home including an artificial fireplace. Lessons such as calling 911, talking to an emergency dispatcher, fire escape drills, stop drop and roll, smoke detectors and fireplace safety are all discussed here.

The second floor has a bedroom with a large window that leads to a deck with a chain escape ladder for fire escape training. More lessons such as crawl low under smoke know two ways out, match and lighter safety and much more are reinforced here in the safe house.

The safe house is heated and air conditioned for maximum comfort, the safe house is also equipped with two heated doors one in the bedroom the other in the living room, the heated doors simulate what a closed door would feel like in a fire condition. Students are taught to feel a door before they open it when escaping a fire, opening a door before feeling it could be a deadly mistake.

The safe house also has the ability to create smoky conditions in each room individually or all rooms simultaneously. This theatrical smoke simulates the smoky conditions found in a house fire, the students are then able to put together lessons learned and practice a fire escape drill in simulated fire conditions. Lessons learned here can help prevent fires before they happen and teach you how to escape and survive a fire when it does happen.

The West Chester Fire Department would like to offer you the opportunity as a resident or a homeowner to sponsor the safe house in your neighborhood. The safe house would also make a great addition to any birthday party, family picnic or reunion, and block parties. To reserve the safe house please call Capt. Rick Prinz at the West Chester Fire Department at 777-1133.