

# Fire & Life Safety Tip Sheet

## Skokie Fire Department

### Smoke Alarms

- A device that detects smoke and sounds an alarm to escape.
- Every home should have at least one smoke alarm on every level.
- Never take the battery out of your smoke alarm except to replace it.
- Some smoke alarms have batteries that need to be changed. If it “chirps”, change the battery.
- Test your smoke alarm every month to make sure the alarm sounds.

### Cooking

- Don't leave cooking unattended.
- Keep the stove clean and use it for cooking only.
- If a grease fire happens, turn off the burner and put a lid over the pan. Do not use water on the fire!

### Heating

- Keep items away from all heaters.
- Turn portable heaters off when you leave or go to sleep.
- Never use extension cords with portable heaters.

### Candle Safety

- Never leave a candle burning unattended.
- Burn well out of the reach of children and pets
- Keep well away from flammable items.
- Observe minimum distance between two burning candles.
- Make sure the candleholder is placed on a stable, heat-resistant surface.

### Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

- Have carbon monoxide alarms in your home and business.
- Some appliances and machines produce a poisonous gas which cannot be seen or smelled.
- Never use the following inside homes, garages and other closed spaces, or outside an open window: generator, charcoal grill, camp stove, vehicle or other gas engine.
- Never use a natural gas oven to heat your home, even for a short time.

### If You Have a Fire

- Get everyone out.
- Go to your family meeting place.
- Call 9-1-1 for help.
- Never go back inside a burning house or building.

### When You Call 911

- Call 9-1-1 for emergencies. Use it for fire, medical help and police. It is free to call 9-1-1.
- If you don't speak English, try to tell the operator what language you speak for an interpreter.
- Be ready to tell what kind of emergency you have and your location and/or address.

### Emergency Preparedness

- Learn to take shelter
  - <http://www.skokie.org/FDEmergPrep.cfm>
  - <http://www.redcross.org/prepare/location/home-family>
  - <http://www.illinois.gov/ready>
- Make a Plan – prepare a Family Support Kit
- Be prepared to take shelter

For additional information contact the Skokie Fire Department at (847) 982-5340