

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD. FIRE / EMS DEPARTMENT



FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY

TIP SHEET

GET OUT, STAY OUT AND CALL 9-1-1

FIRE is FAST! In less than **30 seconds** a small flame can turn into a MAJOR fire. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill a house and to be engulfed in flames.

Fire is HOT! Heat is more threatening than flames. Room temperatures during a fire can reach upwards of 100 degrees at floor level and 600 degrees at eye level. Inhaling this super hot air will scorch your lungs.

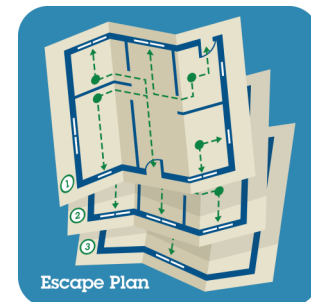
Fire is DARK! Fire starts bright, but quickly produces thick black smoke and complete darkness.

Fire is DEADLY! Smoke and toxic gases kill more people than flames do. Fire produces poisonous gases that make you disoriented and drowsy.*

EVERY SECOND COUNTS! IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE: GET LOW, GET OUT, CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND YOU, CALL 9-1-1

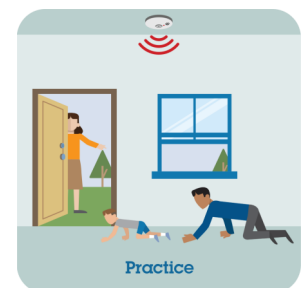
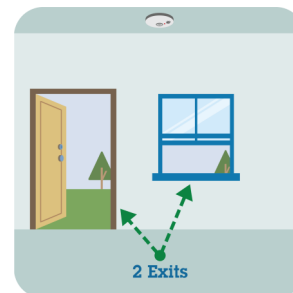
ESCAPE PLANNING

- Ensure doorways, hallways, and stairs are clear of furniture/clutter that could obstruct an exit or be a tripping hazard during an emergency.
- Practice and implement a fire escape plan with members of your family. Know 2 ways out of every room!
- Ensure that all exit doors can be unlocked from the inside, **without** needing a key.



HEAT AND ELECTRICAL SAFETY

- **Cooking and Heating are the leading causes of home fires.**
- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source, including bedding, mattresses, and curtains.
- Do not allow anyone to use lighters and matches in an unsafe manner.
- Never leave cooking unattended or cook wearing loose clothing.
- Never overload outlets and plug strips. Inspect your extension cords!



SMOKE ALARM SAFETY

- Install 10 year sealed smoke alarms on every level in your home near the bedrooms. Check your smoke alarms once a month.
- Carbon monoxide detectors should be present in any home that uses gas, oil, or wood burning appliances.
- Placement: 5-20 feet from furnaces and fuel burning appliances.

HOME FIRE LIFE SAFETY

- Three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without a working smoke alarm.*
- Teach children how to dial 9-1-1 in an emergency.
- Never leave your home while the dryer is running.

* statistics provided by Ready.gov and NFPA.org/ images from U.S Fire Administration