

# Focus on Fire Safety

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# Be Familiar with Workplace Emergency Procedures

- Do you know where the two Emergency Exit signs are located in our office? These must be clear and free of obstruction at all times.
- How many Fire Extinguishers are there in the office and where are they located? Do you know how to use them?
- What should you do if a fire erupts in the office?
- Have an office escape plan and a safe meeting place planned out.

# Be Fire Safe at Home

- Create & practice home fire escape plans with all members of your family
- Test your smoke alarms monthly and change the batteries twice a year. Replace smoke alarms every 10 years.
- Be careful when burning candles, keep them away from hanging curtains and other dangling items.
- Make sure all appliances are turned off and unplugged before you leave the house ie: coffee pots, toasters, curling irons, tools ect.
- Do not overload outlets with tv, computer, printer, video game system and stereo.
- Don't run electrical wires under rugs.
- Be aware of holiday dangers: if you have a real Christmas tree be sure to water it daily, make sure all light cords used are in good shape and not worn or frayed.
- Keep fire extinguishers handy in your home and know how to use them.
- Know what to do if a fire breaks out: cover mouth with moist towel, crawl under smoke staying low to the ground, touch doors to see if they are hot and do not open if they are find another way out, never stop to make a 911 call or collect personal belongings just get out, never go back into a burning building or home, stop drop and roll to extinguish flames if clothing catches on fire.

# Fire Facts

- It's safer to sleep with your bedroom doors closed. It keeps the deadly heat and smoke out giving you more time to escape.
- Cool a burn under water for 10 to 15 minutes.
- Candle fires nearly double in the month of December.
- Residential fires account for 25% of all fires.
- Cooking fires are the leading cause of fires in the home (24%), followed by heating (13 %), includes fires started by central heating systems, fireplaces, portable space heaters, fixed room heaters, wood stoves, and water heating.
- Smoking continues to be the leading cause of residential fire deaths, accounting for 19 percent of these fires.
- Forty-six percent of residential fatal fires start between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., with the largest numbers of fires in December and January.
- The Porter Ranch Community, Twin Lakes, and Indian Hills area fire burned 14,703 acres.
- Most victims of fires die from smoke inhalation and not from burns
- 43 percent of home fire deaths occur in homes without smoke alarms and alcohol use contributes to an estimated 40% of residential fire deaths.
- On average in the United States in 2006, someone died in a fire about every 162 minutes, and someone was injured every 32 minutes.
- Keep portable space heaters 3 feet away from anything that may burn.
- Use bulbs with the correct wattage