



## FIRE SAFETY TIPS

By being prepared, you're taking pro-active steps that can help prevent loss of life or loss of possessions by fire.

### **SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES!**

- Remember that smoke alarms should be installed outside all sleeping areas and on each level of the home.
- Check each smoke alarm monthly, and replace batteries as needed. All batteries should be replaced once a year.
- Keep smoke alarms clean and free of dust or cobwebs.
- A smoke alarm should be replaced every 10 years as it loses sensitivity over time.



### **Plan escape routes well in advance:**

- Determine at least two ways of escape from each room of the house.
- Escape ladders are helpful for sleeping areas on the second or third floors. Learn how to use them and store them near a window.
- Select a designated location outside your home where all family members will meet after escaping.
- Practice your plan at least two times per year.

### **Your exit strategy:**

- Call the fire department from a neighbor's home. The first step is escaping the house; don't return once you've made it out!
- If you see smoke or fire in your first escape route, use your second way out. If you must exit through smoke, crawl low under the smoke to your exit.
- If you must exit through a closed door, feel the door before opening it. If it is warm, use your alternate way out.
- If smoke, heat, or flames block your exit routes, stay in the room with the door closed. Signal for help using a bright-colored cloth at the window. If there is a telephone in the room, call the fire department and tell them where you are.