Smoke Alarms

In California, all residents are required to have at least one operating smoke alarm. The number of alarms you need and their location depends upon the layout of your home.

There should be one smoke alarm located near sleeping areas. It is also a good idea to have at least one alarm on each level of your home, including the basement.

Advanced planning will ensure that you are ready for any fire emergency and can provide you and your loved ones peace of mind.

Learn more on fire safety education at: www.fire.ca.gov

**TIPS**

- Prepare a fire escape plan.
- Install and maintain smoke alarms.
- Practice exit drills in the home regularly.
- Examine your home for fire hazards and take steps to prevent a fire before it occurs.

Exit Drills In The Home can help people prepare for an emergency. Most home fires occur at night, when people are the least prepared.

Home fires can become a disaster if you and your family are not familiar with how to escape during an emergency.

Safety Starts With You!
How to Design Your FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

1. To design your own fire escape plan, sketch the floor plan of your home on a piece of paper.

2. Indicate on the plan all doors, windows and other areas from which you could escape from each room in your home.

3. Draw arrows to indicate the normal exits which would be your primary escape route.

4. With an alternate color, draw arrows to indicate a secondary exit from each room in the home.

Practice, Practice, Practice

Your fire escape plan may look great on paper, but does it really work? Regular exit drills in the home will allow you to test the plan and make adjustments as needed. When practicing your exit drills in the home, remember to use alternate escape routes as well. Children should be closely supervised during drills in the home and no one should take unnecessary chances.

Meeting Place

Choose a location outside the home where family members should meet once they have safely escaped. A neighbor’s front yard or sidewalk may be an ideal meeting place.

Special Needs

People with physical or mental handicaps face greater risks during a fire emergency. People with special needs should sleep in a bedroom near someone who can help in the event of an emergency. A physically handicapped person may require a sleeping area on the ground floor. Design a special escape plan based on the abilities of the person.

9-1-1

Everyone should know the location of telephones in the home. It is very important that children also know the “911” phone number in order to report a fire or other emergencies to authorities.