Good home escape planning and practice matters!

- Today’s homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds.
- Every home should be properly equipped with smoke alarms. Should the smoke alarms sound in a real fire, everyone knows where to go because they planned and practiced their escape!
- Good home escape planning and practice ensures that everyone in the home knows what to do in the event of a fire and is prepared to escape quickly and safely.

VIDEO: Watch this Fire Prevention Week informational kids’ video on how every family can plan and practice their home fire escape plan.
K9 Anthem and K9 Reeves want to make sure everyone in YOUR home recognizes the sound of a smoke alarm as well as what to do in the event it goes off. Being prepared for home emergencies can help lessen fears and anxieties before, during and after an emergency. Include these topics as part of your safe escape planning. If you need help or have a question please contact your local fire department.

**STEP ONE: KNOW TWO WAYS OUT OF EVERY ROOM**

Every room should have two ways out. One way out would be the door and the second way out may be a window. If your first way out is blocked by fire or smoke you should use your second way out. Remember an emergency escape from a second story window may involve using a home fire safety ladder.

**CREATE YOUR HOME ESCAPE PLAN MAP**

**STEP TWO: CREATE YOUR HOME ESCAPE MAP**

Now that your family has created two ways out of every room and made sure that all doors and windows leading outside can easily open, it is time to create your ESCAPE PLAN MAP with TWO WAYS OUT OF EVERY ROOM!
**STEP THREE: MEETING PLACE**

- Pick a safe meeting place OUTSIDE. A good meeting spot should be out in FRONT of the home. It should be a safe distance from the home like a light pole, mailbox or neighbor’s house.
- Agree that everyone will meet at the meeting place.
- Talk about your meeting place and what everyone should do in the event of an emergency.
- If your exit involves the use of an escape ladder, follow manufacturer’s instructions and practice with your child from the **FIRST FLOOR** window.
- Make sure your street number is properly placed and visible from the street.

**PRACTICE YOUR PLAN!**

**STEP 4: PRACTICE!**

We all know that practice makes perfect. Now that you have created your escape plan map and established a meeting spot, it is time to practice your plan during the daytime AND nighttime hours to ensure that children know what to do in the event of an emergency no matter the time of day. **TEACH CHILDREN HOW TO ESCAPE ON THEIR OWN.**

**GET OUTSIDE, STAY OUTSIDE. Call 9-1-1**

**IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY:**

- If the smoke alarm sounds, GET OUT and STAY OUT. NEVER go back inside for people or pets. Tell the fire department when they arrive.
- Close room doors behind you as you leave.
- If you have to escape through smoke, GET LOW and GO under the smoke to the safest way out.
- Once at the meeting spot call 9-1-1.
Halloween Safety

Everyone loves a good scare on Halloween, but not when it comes to child safety. There are several easy and effective behaviors that parents/guardians can share with kids to help reduce their risk of injury.

**TOP TIPS FOR HALLOWEEN SAFETY:**

1. Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers. If possible, choose light colored costumes for better driver visibility while walking on dark roads.
2. Masks can obstruct a child’s vision, try using non-toxic paint and/or make-up instead.
3. When selecting a costume make sure it is the right size to avoid trips and falls.
4. Popular trick-or-treat hours are 5:30-9:30 so be sure to be especially aware of children out during these hours. Check within your local communities for trick-or-treat day and times.
5. Children under 12 should not be alone without adult supervision. If kids are mature to be out without adult supervision, remind them to stay with their groups and to stay with familiar areas that are well lit.
6. Have kids use glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers. Show your kids this fun video!

![Be Safe. Be Seen on Halloween!](image)

**OCTOBER: Change your Batteries in Smoke & CO Alarms**

by: Hannah Ahern

Hannah from Pollard Elementary School in Plaistow, would like to remind us during the month of October that it is very important to check the batteries in ALL of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. By checking them you know that they will work in the event of an emergency. Thank you Hannah for this very important message and your artistic talent!

Mark your calendars and add batteries to your shopping list. **Sunday, November 3rd:**

CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS. CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES.
Message from Marshal Parisi:

This October Governor Sununu, myself, fire departments and educators throughout the State of New Hampshire, as well as across the country, recognize October 6th - 12th as Fire Prevention Week. This year’s FPW theme is, “Not every hero wears a cape. Plan and Practice your Escape.” This dedicated week provides educators and families, with the ideal opportunity to kick off a new yearlong initiative to educate everyone on the importance of having working smoke alarms, an escape plan, a meeting place, getting out and staying out and then calling 9-1-1. This newsletter provides you with clear step-by-step information on how to create a solid escape plan with simple videos to watch.

Please take the time to create your home escape plan map with two ways out of every room. Practice this plan with every family member. Hang the escape plan map where all family members and visitors can see, a refrigerator is a GREAT spot! When it comes to the safety of you, your family, your home, and any visitors, one can never be too safe. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your local fire department or the NH State Fire Marshal’s Office.

If you see something, say something
REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY
Call 9-1-1 or your local police department

“If you see something, say something” is a national campaign that raises public awareness of the indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime, as well as the importance of reporting suspicious activity to state and local law enforcement.

K9, Student and Parent Approved Websites:
While we encourage students to disconnect and enjoy safe outdoor play we understand that sometimes the weather just doesn’t cooperate. So when it comes to computer time try any one of these child friendly fire and life safety websites! Just click a picture to open the link and explore. Have fun learning to be safer!

Any questions or comments regarding this newsletter please feel free to contact:

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