



Fire Protection & Prevention Services



Be Prepared for Fire

Know exactly what to do and where to go if there is a fire. Plan your escape! Make a home escape plan or refer to your building's fire safety plan.

Smoke alarms protect everyone

Have a smoke alarm installed on every level of your home – especially near sleeping areas. Every month, test the alarms by using a broom handle or cane to gently push the alarm test button. Make sure everyone can hear the smoke alarms all areas of your home.

If you smoke...

Use large, deep ashtrays and always make sure your cigarette butts are out. Never smoke when you are lying down, if you are drowsy, or in bed.

Don't reach for danger!

Wear tight fitting or rolled up sleeves when cooking and don't reach over a hot burner. If a pot catches fire, cover it with a lid and turn off the burner. Never leave your cooking unattended.

If your clothing catches fire...

Lower yourself to the ground, cover your face with your hands and roll over and over to put out the flames. If you can't do this, grab a towel or blanket and smother the flames.

Crawl low under smoke...

Most fire victims die from smoke, not flames. Smoke always rises, so you must get down on the floor where the air is cleaner. Crawl on your hands and knees to safety.

Give space heaters space...

Keep them at least 1 metre (3 feet) away from everything – including you. A slight brush against a heater could set your clothing on fire.

Need Assistance?

If you would like help to test your smoke alarms or to prepare a fire safety plan, talk to your friends, family or home support worker. There is help available within your community. If you have any questions about fire safety, your fire department will be pleased to assist.

Working Smoke Alarms is Everyone's Responsibility

There are still a large number of fatal fires occurring in the province of Ontario, with an increase in fatalities this year up significantly from this time last year. The majority of these fatalities could have easily been prevented with the presence of a working smoke alarm. Sadly it appears that even with all the recent media stories, new laws and efforts of fire departments throughout the province the general public does not seem to be taking this issue seriously until it is too late.

The Ontario Fire Code clearly states that it is the "Owners" responsibility to ensure that a smoke alarm is provided and maintained in working order, and furthermore that No person shall disable a smoke alarm. It is time people start to take some personal responsibility when it comes to fire safety.

Fire fighter Paul Sargeant says "If every building owner was as diligent and cooperative as Mr. & Mrs. Strauss then our community would be a safer place". He also states "Every

week we encounter numerous buildings, apartments etc. where there are still no working smoke alarms." After the fire is too late!

This month is Fire Prevention Month. Do you have a working smoke alarm in your home?



Local homeowner & Landlord, Aundene Strauss demonstrates the importance of installing and maintaining smoke alarms in your home and apartment suites.



Using a Fire Extinguisher

Purchase a A-B-C rated fire extinguisher and teach all responsible family members how to use it.

However, the Red Cross strongly recommends that you visit your local fire department to practise using a fire extinguisher properly. You need to practise to ensure you will remember how to respond when you are forced to react quickly. Also please remember that most household fire extinguishers are designed to put out very small fires only. Attempting to put out large fires with a household extinguisher can be dangerous. An experienced fire professional will be able to explain the safest, most effective way to use your extinguisher. Remember, fire extinguishers are for small fires only. When using one, stand back 10 feet from the fire, keep your back to an exit and remember the PASS Sequence.

- Pull the pin out
- Aim the extinguisher
- Squeeze or press the handle
- Sweep from side to side at the base of the fire.



Living Healthy

This **FREE** public education seminar is presented by Halton Healthcare Services in partnership with:
Canadian Cancer Society Smokers' Helpline
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario
Region of Halton
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
The Lung Association

Smoking Cessation Strategies

by Dr. Kiran Cherla, Family Physician Halton Healthcare Services

Thursday, October 23, 2008

6:30 pm **Displays/refreshments**

7:00 pm **Presentation**

Georgetown Hospital Activity Room

1 Princess Anne Drive, Georgetown

Reduced parking fee

To reserve a seat please call

905.338.4379 or 905.873.0111 (4379)