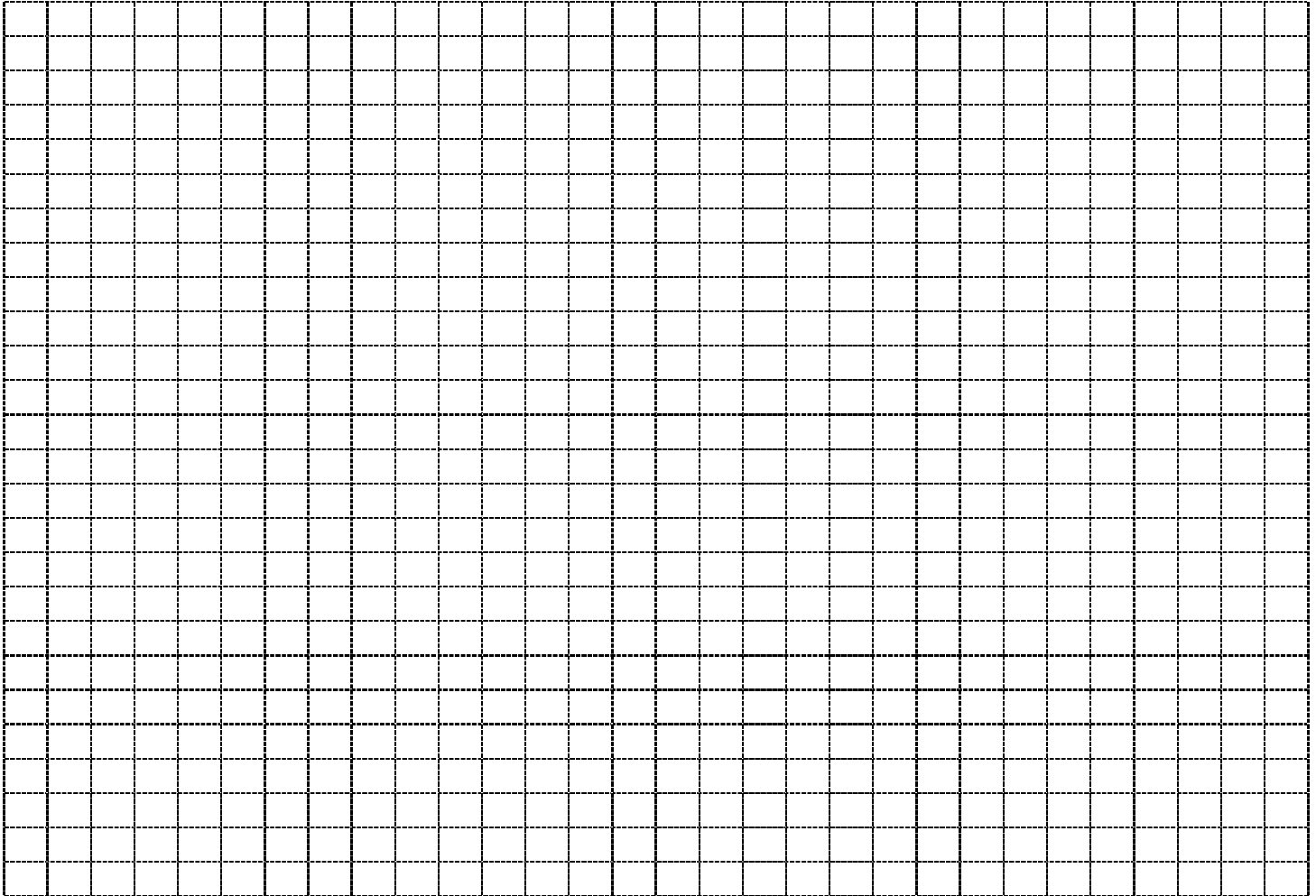


Team Up for Fire Safety – Make a Plan!

Sparky and his firefighting friends want you and your family to be safe from fire. But they can't do it alone. So what are you waiting for? "Team Up for Fire Safety" and develop and practice a home fire escape plan, using the grid below.



Fire Department Emergency Number 911

Create a floor plan of your home using space above. Make sure it includes working smoke alarms, two ways out of every room, an outside meeting place, and the emergency phone number for your local fire department. Then practice your plan with all the members of your household regularly, at least twice a year.

ANNUAL HOME CLEAN UP & FIRE PREVENTION SAFETY TIPS

- **CLEAN/VACUUM YOUR SMOKE ALARMS**
- **TEST SMOKE ALARMS AT LEAST MONTHLY-PREFERABLY WEEKLY**
- **CHANGE BATTERIES WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS**
- **MAKE AND PRACTICE YOUR HOME ESCAPE PLAN**
- **CLEAN UP BASEMENT, GARAGE AND STORAGE AREAS**
- **DISPOSE OF OIL BASED PAINTS BY DROPPING THEM OFF AT DESIGNATED DROP OFF SITES LISTED IN YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER.**
- **CHECK CORDS AND OUTLETS FOR FRAYING OR EXPOSED WIRING ON ALL ELECTRICALLY OPERATED EQUIPMENT**
- **CHECK PROPANE GRILLS FOR LOOSE FLOTTINGS AND LEAKS BEFORE USING**
- **BEFORE USING PROPANE GRILLS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEASON, CHECK BURNER TUBES TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE FREE OF OBSTRUCTIONS SUCH AS INSECT AND SPIDER NESTS**
- **USE ONLY STARTER FLUID (NEVER GASOLINE) WHEN LIGHTING CHARCOAL GRILLS**
- **FILL LAWN MOWERS, POWER SAWS ETC., ONLY OUTSIDE AND WHEN THE ENGINE IS COOL**
- **NEVER USE OR STORE GASOLINE INDOORS**
- **MAKE SURE YOUR ADDRESS IS CLEARLY MARKED ON YOUR HOME**
- **STORE SWIMMING POOL CHEMICALS PROPERLY**

HOME ESCAPE PLANNING

Designing and practicing a home escape plan will help your family survive a home fire. Since fire spreads quickly, early detection is a must. If you haven't done so already, install smoke alarms on each level of your home, and in each bedroom if possible. Then follow the directions listed below to design a home escape plan for your family.

- Gather the entire family and test your smoke alarms. Now everyone knows the sound of the smoke alarm. Test each smoke alarm weekly and change the battery when you change your clock to and from day light savings time.
- Draw a floor plan of your home showing each door and window of each room. Be sure everyone understands two ways out of each room.
- Check to be sure that all doors and windows open as designed. Make repairs or alterations to accommodate the physical capabilities of your family. If you have security bars on windows, they should have a quick release mechanism.
- If the second way out of the rooms on the upper floor(s) of your home is through a window, and there is not direct access to a roof or other structure purchase an escape ladder.
- Be sure children understand that an escape ladder is for emergency use only and be sure they know how to use it.
- If you live in an apartment building, you should know two ways off your floor. In the event of a fire, use the stairs and not the elevator.
- Agree on a meeting place outside where the entire family can meet after everyone has exited the home.
- Have a place outside where you can call 911 to report the fire, using a neighbor's phone or a cell phone.
- Practice your home escape plan at least twice a year (e.g. when you change your clocks). If someone in your home needs assistance, assign a family member to assist him or her.
- If there are children in your home, practice the escape plan until you are certain they understand what to do. Practice crawling beneath the smoke and heat to the exit and practice testing doors, with the back of the hand, for warmth before opening. Children should know that if the door is warm, fire is nearby, use the second way to get out.
- Activate the test button on the smoke alarm after the children have gone to bed and see how they respond. Practice makes perfect.
- For more information about home escape planning and fire safety, you can go to the National Fire Protection Association's web site at www.nfpa.org.

HOME FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

PLAN TO GET OUT ALIVE

YES

NO

- Do you have a home fire escape plan with a pre-determined location to meet outside? _____
- Have you practice your plan? _____
- Is there at least one smoke alarm on each floor of your home? _____
- Do you test your smoke alarm weekly? _____
- Is the battery replaced twice a year? _____
- Is your smoke alarm less than 10 years old? _____

PLAN TO BE FIRE SAFE

- Do you make sure matches and smoking materials are out before disposing of them? _____
- Is “No Smoking in your house” a rule in your home? _____
- Do you read the warning labels on aerosol cans because some propellants are highly flammable? _____
- If you have a family member using oxygen at home, do you prohibit smoking in the same room with the oxygen equipment? _____

ELECTRICAL HAZARDS

- Are there enough electrical outlets in every room to avoid the need for multiple attachment plugs and long extension cords? _____
- Do you have special circuits for heavy duty appliances, such as air conditioners? _____
- Are all extension and appliance cords checked frequently for wear? _____
- Do you avoid draping wires and extension cords over pipes, or nails? _____

HOUSEKEEPING HAZARDS

- Do you keep your basement, closets and attic cleared of combustible materials? _____
- If you store paint, varnish, etc., do you keep the metal containers tightly closed? _____
- Has everyone in your family been warned never to use gasoline or other flammable fluids for cleaning anything indoors? _____

HEATING AND COOKING HAZARDS

- Do you always turn off portable heaters when you go to bed? _____
- Do you always refill fuel tank of your portable heaters outdoors? _____
- Do you see every portable heater is placed well away (3”) from curtains, bedding, furniture etc.? _____
- Is your kitchen range, including the oven and broiler, kept clean of grease? _____
- Are curtains near kitchen ranges and heating equipment arranged so that curtains do not blow over or near stove? _____
- Does your family’s everyday cooking habit include not leaving food on the stove unattended and keeping hot pot handles turned in from the stove’s edge? _____

SPECIAL FOR PARENTS

- Do you keep matches out of reach of children? _____
- Do you leave a responsible person with your children when you go out, even for a short period of time? _____
- When you employ a babysitter, do you instruct them what to do in case of fire or medical emergency? _____
- Do you keep candles away from children, combustibles and never leave candles unattended or burning while sleeping? _____

FOR FIRE OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY CALL 9-1-1

