



# Home Fire Safety Checklist

Mason County Fire District #2

460 NE Old Belfair Hwy

PO Box 277

Phone: (360) 275-6711 / Fax: (360) 275-6224

Proudly serving the communities of North Mason

## Home Exterior

- \_\_\_ Make sure your house number is visible from the street. Contact Fire District 2 for free reflective house signs
- \_\_\_ Be sure trees are trimmed away from electrical wires (see below)
- \_\_\_ Trim trees away from chimney and remove all pine needles and leaves from roofs, eaves & rain gutters

**For more information about trimming trees from your electrical wires, contact Mason County PUD 3 at (360) 275-6518.**

## Heating Equipment & Fireplace

- \_\_\_ Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from all combustible materials
- \_\_\_ Replace your furnace filters once a year. Clogged filters can cause overheating.
- \_\_\_ Clean lint from behind clothes dryer. Lint is combustible, and your dryer puts out heat which can ignite it.
- \_\_\_ Install a spark screen in front of the fireplace
- \_\_\_ Have chimney inspected and cleaned annually. Creosote can build up and cause chimney fires.
- \_\_\_ Install a spark arrester on chimney. This prevents sparks from catching outside trees on fire.
- \_\_\_ Dispose of ashes in metal containers
- \_\_\_ Keep newspapers, other combustibles and clutter away from water heater

## Electrical

- \_\_\_ Avoid overloading electrical circuits
- \_\_\_ Inspect electrical cords and appliances for damage
- \_\_\_ Do not tack cords to the wall or run them under rugs
- \_\_\_ Maintain air space around electrical equipment, such as, TV, VCR, stereo, etc.
- \_\_\_ Install additional outlets, by a qualified electrician, to avoid using cube taps and extension cords
- \_\_\_ If you must use extension cords, use only the kind that have a built-in circuit breaker

## Flammable Liquids & Hazardous Materials

- \_\_\_ Limit the amount of chemicals stored
- \_\_\_ Dispose of and recycle household hazardous materials properly (see below)
- \_\_\_ Store hazardous materials in proper containers with tight-fitting lids and correct identification labels
- \_\_\_ Store hazardous materials away from heat sources
- \_\_\_ Allow for proper ventilation when using flammable liquids and hazardous materials
- \_\_\_ Put oily rags in metal containers with tight-fitting lids, not in a pile where they can spontaneously ignite

## Cooking

- \_\_\_ Never leave cooking unattended
- \_\_\_ Cuff sleeves and turn pot handles inward when cooking to avoid burn injuries
- \_\_\_ Never store combustibles in oven or on top of stove
- \_\_\_ When barbecuing, move unit away from the house
- \_\_\_ Dispose of coals/ashes in metal containers

## Smoking Materials & Candles

- \_\_\_ Never leave cigarettes or candles unattended
- \_\_\_ Purchase and use ashtrays that have the center support feature
- \_\_\_ Empty ashtrays into noncombustible containers only
- \_\_\_ Never smoke in bed
- \_\_\_ Place candles in noncombustible, sturdy holders
- \_\_\_ Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children

## Smoke Alarms

- \_\_\_ Install smoke alarms inside and outside every sleeping area and on every level of your home
- \_\_\_ Test smoke alarms once a month. Hint: use a broom handle to reach & push test button
- \_\_\_ Replace smoke alarm batteries twice a year. Hint: use Daylight Savings Time as a reminder
- \_\_\_ Replace smoke alarm units every 10 years

**For information on carbon monoxide detectors, contact Fire District 2 at (360) 275-6711.**

## Fire Extinguishers

- \_\_\_ Purchase a multipurpose (ABC) extinguisher
- \_\_\_ Teach your family how to use a fire extinguisher. Use "PASS" as your guide:
  - P**ull the pin
  - A**im at the base of the fire
  - S**queeze the handle of the extinguisher
  - S**weep back and forth across the fire
- \_\_\_ Inspect extinguishers annually

**For information on refilling your fire extinguishers, contact Fire District 2 at (360) 275-6711.**

## Develop & Practice A Home Escape Plan

- \_\_\_ Develop a home escape plan that includes:
  - Crawling low under smoke
  - Two exits out of every room
  - A meeting place outside (tree, mailbox, etc.)
- \_\_\_ Practice escape plan with every member
- \_\_\_ Teach all family members how to:
  - Dial 9-1-1 in an emergency. Be sure to state your name, location & type of emergency
  - Stop, drop, and roll if clothes catch fire