



CITY OF NEW ORLEANS
LaToya Cantrell
Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT



Timothy McConnell
Superintendent

Below are Home Fire Safety Tips that will help keep us all safe from residential fires:

SMOKE ALARMS

1. Any Orleans Parish resident in need of a smoke alarm should contact the NOFD at 504-658-4714 or request online at www.nola.gov/nofd
2. Replace all antiquated stand-alone 9-volt smoke alarms. Contact the NOFD if you need assistance.
3. DO NOT install smoke alarms in the kitchen or bathroom.
4. Test the batteries monthly.
5. Keep smoke alarms away from air vents.
6. Place smoke alarms at least 4 to 6 inches away from walls and corners.

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

1. Install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms near bedroom areas and family rooms for extra protection place one about fifteen feet away from your home's heat source.
2. DO NOT install them near air vents or fans.
3. Test your CO Alarm each week by pressing the test/silence button to make sure that the alarm sounds.
4. Keep your CO Alarms dust free by vacuuming air vents regularly.

ALTERNATIVE HEATERS

5. Use heaters only in well ventilated rooms.
6. Place heaters where they will not be knocked over easily.
7. Do not use heaters to dry clothing or other items.
8. Keep heaters at a safe distance from curtains, furniture and all combustibles.
9. Don't leave children alone with space heaters on. An adult should always be present when a space heater is in use.

Some hazards associated with unvented heaters are:

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1. Depletion of oxygen from the room resulting in death
2. Clothing or close combustibles catching on fire when close to flames.
3. Air pollution such as carbon monoxide whenever fuel is incompletely burned.

ELECTRIC SPACE HEATERS

1. Plug heaters directly into the wall socket, and not into extension cords.
2. Check the cords on electric heaters before using. If the cord is frayed or splitting, have the cord replaced by an appliance repair person.
3. Unplug heater when not being used.
4. Never leave space heaters unattended around pets or small children

HEATING SOURCES

1. Floor furnaces should be cleaned and vacuumed prior to usage and should be checked for proper ventilation.
2. Make sure floor furnaces are clear of all coverings.
3. All gas heating sources should put out a clear blue flame, if you see a primarily orange or yellowish flame; have it checked by a professional.
4. All gas heating sources must also be properly ventilated. Keeping a window slightly opened can circulate fresh air and reduce carbon monoxide buildups in tightly sealed houses.
5. **Never** use a stove or oven to heat the home. This causes a buildup of deadly carbon monoxide gas in the home.

CANDLES

1. Before you light candles put them in a non-tip candle holder.
2. Keep candles well away from curtains and other combustibles, and never put candles in windows or near exits.
3. Do not leave candles burning unattended around pets or small children.
4. Extinguish candles before you leave a room, go to bed, or leave home.

SAFE COOKING PRACTICES

1. Do not leave food unattended on the stove.
2. Pot handles are to be turned in while cooking on the stove.
3. Keep dangling clothing away from burners.
4. Keep appliances clean and free of grease and crumbs.

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5. Keep curtains and other combustibles away from the stove.
6. Make sure the stove is off and small appliances are unplugged before going to bed.
7. Keep a fire extinguisher handy, especially in the kitchen.

ELECTRICAL WIRING

1. Replace wiring if frayed or cracked.
2. Do not place wiring under rugs, over nails or in high traffic areas.
3. Use a surge protector to avoid overloading outlets.
4. Keep covers over electric plates and avoid exposed wiring.

SAFE SMOKING HABITS

1. Never smoke in bed.
2. Keep ashtrays away from upholstered furniture and curtains.
3. Always extinguish cigars, cigarettes and tobacco completely.
4. Check wastebaskets and furniture for smoldering cigarettes.

WOODSTOVES AND FIREPLACES

1. Use only seasoned wood, and **never** use green wood, plastic artificial logs, paper or trash.
2. Make sure the chimney flue is open before the fireplace is used.
3. Always use a protective screen.
5. Clean interiors, hearths and chimneys yearly.
6. Have your chimney inspected by a professional at least once a year and have it cleaned if necessary.
7. Remove ashes in a metal container, because they may rekindle, never store ashes in your home.

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