



PARTNERING WITH TOWNSHIPS

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION RISK REMINDER

Fire Prevention Safety

This is a good time to check your smoke detectors and change the batteries. Even hard-wired smoke alarms may have batteries. Check your detectors at home, as well as in your buildings. More than half of all fatal home fires happen at night while people are asleep. With smoke detectors, your risk of dying in a home fire is cut nearly in half. Install smoke detectors outside every sleeping area and on every level of your home, including the basement. Follow installation instructions carefully, and test smoke detectors monthly. Change all smoke detector batteries at least once a year. Here are some additional safety items to review:

- Review your emergency exit plan. Create one for your home, as well.
- Make sure exits are not blocked.
- Inspect facilities looking for fire hazards such as worn electrical cords and improperly stored flammables, including aerosols.
- Check fire extinguishers for location, level of charge and up-to-date inspection tag.
- Train employees and family members on use of extinguishers.

Remember the (PASS) Method when using a fire extinguisher:

- Pull the pin
- Aim low, point extinguisher at base of fire
- Squeeze the lever
- Sweep the nozzle from side-to-side



GET OUT FAST

In case of a fire, don't stop for anything. Do not try to rescue possessions or pets. Go directly to your meeting place, and then call the fire department from a neighbor's phone or a portable phone. Every member of your household should know how to call the fire department.

If you must exit through smoke, crawl on your hands and knees, keeping your head 12 to 24 inches above the floor.

STAY OUT! Once you are out of the building, don't go back for any reason. If people are trapped, the firefighters have the best chance of rescuing them.

Escaping a fire may not be as easy as walking out the door. Dark smoke and fright can affect your thinking during a fire. The more you practice the plan, the more likely everyone will remember what to do in an emergency.

For more information, contact your Loss Control Consultant at (888) 562-7861

CLAIM REPORTING HOTLINE (844) 562-2720 | Available 24/7