

Address:

This checklist is designed to help you improve the safety of your home & protect your family from fire & common household hazards.

Home fire facts:

- Fires kill more people in the US annually than all natural disasters combined.
- Annually approximately 4000 civilians are killed & more than 28,000 are injured in fires.
 - Eight out of ten fire deaths in the US occur in the home.
 - Every 79 seconds a home burns somewhere in the US.
 - Home fires often happen at night when people are sleeping.
 - In only 3 minutes a room can become engulfed in flames before anyone awakens.
 - A fire doubles in size every 30 seconds.
- Those at highest risk of dying in a fire are young children, older adults, and people with ٠ disabilities, smokers, people that use alcohol, or take medications that cause drowsiness.
 - Smokers' materials are the #1 cause of fire deaths in the home.

Looking around your home, please check YES or NO for the following statements.

Any NO answer presents a danger, so take steps to fix the situation and make your home a safer place.

SMOKE ALARMS – Working smoke alarms save lives.	YES	NO	Can all occupants HEAR the smoke alarm sounding?		
Do you have smoke alarms near sleeping areas and on every level of the home?			Fire Escape Plan – Plan & practice your home fire escape plan.	YES	NO
Do you test your smoke alarms monthly?			Do you have a home escape plan with two ways out of every room?		
Do you change the batteries twice a year on non-sealed alarms?			Do you have a planned meeting place outside?		
Have you replaced alarms that are older			Do you regularly practice you escape plan with family?		
than ten years?			Have you made a plan for escape		
Does everyone in your home know what the alarm sounds like & know what to do when they hear the sound?			considering the abilities of all people in your home?		

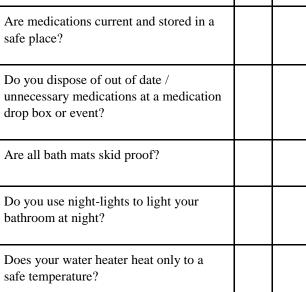




Home Fire Safety Self-Inspection Checklist

Heating Equipment – Unplug space heaters when not in use & before bed.	YES	NO	Are children and others requiring supervision also monitored while cooking?		
Are combustibles kept away from heaters or fireplaces?			Do make sure snug fitting clothing is worn while cooking?		
Are fireplace ashes kept in a metal container with lid?			Do you unplug small appliances when not in use?		
If using a wood fire place, is there a protective screen and hearth area?			Appliances are clean and in good condition, i.e. electrical cords not		
Have you had your chimney inspected by a professional within the last year?			damaged/frayed, burner elements clean/not damaged, switches clean/not damaged.		
Have you had your fireplace inspected by a professional within the last year?			Do you turn pot handles in and away from other burners?		
Do all portable heaters have at least 3 feet of clearance from combustibles such as furnishing, curtains, and bedding?			Is there a non-slip rug or mat below the kitchen sink?		
Are gas and oil burners maintained regularly?			Bathrooms – Keep medications safe and locked up.	YES	NO
Do gas & oil hot water heaters and furnaces have 3 feet of clearance from any combustibles?			Are medications current and stored in a safe place?		
			Do you dispose of out of date /		

Kitchen – Stay in the kitchen when cooking food.	YES	NO
Are cooking surfaces clean and free of debris?		
Do you keep a pan lid nearby when cooking with grease in case of fire?		
Is someone always in the kitchen while food is cooking?		







Home Fire Safety Self-Inspection Checklist

Are your bathroom floors, shower floors/tubs equipped with non-slip surfaces?	
Do you bring a cell phone into the bathroom with you in case of emergency?	
Do you keep all electric appliances away from sinks, tubs and showers?	
Does your bathtub/shower have sturdy handrails?	

Falls & Trips – Prevent falls & trips by eliminating hazards.	YES	NO
Are your walkways clear of clutter?		
Is there a phone near your bed?		
Do you wipe up spills immediately after they happen?		
Are all rugs affixed to the floor or skid proof?		
Do you use nightlights to light your way?		
Is there a lamp in arms distance of your bed?		
Are your bathroom floors, shower floors/tubs equipped with non-slip surfaces?		
Are stairs free from clutter and tripping hazards?		

Does your home have sturdy handrails at all staircases?	
Do night-lights light your way to the bathroom/hallway at night?	
Are telephone, extension cords & cables removed from walkways and stowed safely behind furniture?	
Is there a sturdy step stool available to reach high items?	

Vehicles-Seat Belts Save Lives!	YES	NO
Do all passengers always wear seat belts in the car?		
Do children always use appropriate car seats or booster seats?		

General Safety – Work to prevent emergencies from happening!	YES	NO
Is your home address clearly marked and easy to see from the street?		
Is the garage free of combustibles such as paper, old rags, etc?		
Are flammable liquids stored in approved, labeled containers?		
Do you clean lint from the dryer and vent regularly?		
Are matches/lighters kept out of reach of children?		





Home Fire Safety Self-Inspection Checklist
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Do you blow out candles whenever you leave a room?	
Are extension cords UL approved?	
Do you use surge protectors?	
Are extension cords are stowed behind furniture and not overloading outlets?	
Do you have a fire extinguisher in the home?	
Do you use gas, oil or wood in your home for any reason?	
Are phones charged on hard surfaces (not beds/pillows).	
Have you considered installing a sprinkler system in your home?	
Can all doors be unlocked from both sides?	
Do you have a list of emergency phone numbers?	

Smoking–Most fatal home fires are caused by smoking materials. Never smoke in bed!	N/A	YES	NO
Do you smoke outside?			
Do you use large deep ashtrays and water to extinguish your smokes?			

If you have children in the house, do you lock lighters/matches away and out of reach of them?		
If you smoke, do you have a rule of no-smoking in bed?		
If you smoke, do you smoke while driving?		

Wilmington Fire Department Community Risk Reduction Division (910) 342-2731

