



Smoke Signals

A Life Safety Newsletter

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City of Dallas

Gasoline Safety



- Keep gasoline out of children's sight and reach.
- Do not smoke when handling gasoline.
- Store gasoline outside the home in tightly closed metal or plastic containers approved by an independent testing laboratory or local state fire authorities. Never store gasoline in glass containers or non-reusable containers such as milk jugs.
- Store only enough gasoline necessary to power equipment and let machinery cool before refueling it.
- Never use gasoline inside the home or as a cleaning agent.

Does your home have a working smoke alarm?

If your home does not have a working smoke alarm, please call 3-1-1. Dallas Fire-Rescue will be glad to install a free smoke alarm for you!



What is Causing Fire in our Homes?

Electrical:

Still the leading cause of residential fires in Dallas. Remember not to use extension cords for permanent wiring and avoid overloading power strips and electrical plugs. Do not run electrical cords across doorways or under carpets. Many older homes are not properly wired for today's modern appliances, so remember to be cautious in your use of electricity. You may consider hiring a licensed electrician to evaluate your home's electrical system.

Unattended Cooking:

More fires begin in the kitchen than in any other part of the home. Keep anything that can catch fire such as oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains away from your stove top. If a pan fire begins on your stove, slide a lid over the top of the pan to suffocate the fire and turn off the burner. Get everyone out and call 9-1-1 immediately.

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Improperly Discarded Smoking Materials:

Discard cigarettes, cigars and pipes safely and completely. Never drop smoking materials in a trash can or out the car window. Make sure your smoking materials are extinguished by running them under water until they are cool to the touch. If you smoke, it is always best to smoke outside.

Combustibles too close to heat source:

While spring is officially here, the weather can still get chilly. Remember to use space heaters carefully and to give them space. Keep a 3 foot clearance of combustibles from any heat source in the house and never use your oven to heat your home.

Equipment Malfunction:

Washers, dryers, ovens, refrigerators and microwaves are common household appliances that can be a fire hazard when operating improperly. If you notice an appliance malfunctioning, discontinue using it until you have had it inspected by a professional repairman or replaced. You know your home best. Pay attention to the things in it.

Propane Gas Safety

- Handle any propane-powered equipment cautiously and always follow the manufacturer's instructions. Cylinder tanks for equipment such as stoves and ovens must be located outside of the home.
- Never store or use propane gas cylinders larger than one pound inside the home.
- Never operate a propane-powered gas grill inside the home.
- Carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions when lighting a pilot.
- If you smell a strong odor of gas, leave the area immediately and call the fire department from outside the home.
- Have propane gas equipment inspected periodically by a professional for possible leaks or malfunctioning parts.

