

Chatham Fire Rescue

Emergency - 911

135 Depot Road, Chatham Massachusetts 02633

Business - 508-945-2324

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

Exterior

- ___ Make house number visible from street
- ___ Trim trees away from the chimney
- ___ Trim trees or brush away from outside electrical wires. For more information, contact Nstar Electric at 1.800.592.2000 or www.nstaronline.com/



Heating Equipment & Fireplace

- ___ Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from all combustibles
- ___ Replace furnace filters twice a year
- ___ Clean lint from behind clothes dryer
- ___ Install a spark screen in front of the fireplace
- ___ Have chimney inspected and cleaned annually
- ___ Install a spark arrester on chimney
- ___ Dispose of ashes in metal containers
- ___ Keep newspapers and other combustibles 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
- ___ 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 labels
- ___ Store hazardous materials away from heat sources
- ___ Allow proper ventilation when using 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 in when cooking to avoid burn injuries
- ___ Never store combustibles in oven or on top of stove
- ___ Move barbecue away from house
- ___ Dispose of coals/ashes in metal containers



Smoking Materials & Candles

- ___ Do not leave burning cigarettes or candles unattended
- ___ Use ash trays with center supports to contain cigarettes
- ___ Empty ashtrays into noncombustible containers
- ___ Never smoke in bed
- ___ Place candles in noncombustible, sturdy holders
- ___ Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children



Smoke / Carbon Monoxide 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 every year
- Hint: use Daylight Savings Time as a reminder
- ___ Replace smoke alarm units every 10 years
- ___ Install carbon monoxide alarms outside every sleeping area and on every level of your home



Fire Extinguishers

- ___ Purchase a multipurpose (ABC) extinguisher
- ___ Teach your family how to use a fire extinguisher (Use P.A.S.S.: Pull the pin, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep)
- ___ Inspect extinguishers annually



Exit Drills in the Home (E.D.I.T.H.)

- ___ Develop a home escape plan that includes:
 - = Crawling low under smoke
 - = Two exits out of every room
 - = A meeting place outside
- ___ Teach family members how to:
 - = Dial 9-1-1 for emergencies
 - = Stop, drop, and roll if clothes catch fire
- ___ Conduct family fire drills at least twice a year
- ___ Teach babysitters what to do in an emergency



Do you want your fire fighters to come and assist you with a home safety inspection? Send an email: fireinspector@chatham-ma.gov or call 508-945-2324.

For more information, contact the Barnstable County Household Hazardous Waste Program at 508.375.6699 or www.capecodextension.org/doc.php?41

For more information and additional resources, visit Chatham Fire Rescue on-line at www.chatham-ma.gov