

National Fire Prevention Month

October 2023

A Special Supplement to THE EXPOSITOR





BonDeCroft Volunteer Fire
Department: 8023 Crossville Hwy.
 Sparta, TN 38583, (931) 935-3170

Cassville Volunteer Fire
Department: 227 Cassville Lane
 Sparta, TN 38583, (931) 761-2476

Central View Volunteer Fire
Department: 14462 Old Kentucky Rd.
 Walling, TN 38587, (931) 761-7222

Cherry Creek Volunteer Fire
Department: 124 Montgomery Rd.
 Sparta, TN 38583, (931) 738-8511

Doyle Volunteer Fire
Department: 5220 McMinnville Highway
 Doyle, TN 38559, (931) 657-2079

Eastland Volunteer Fire
Department: 221 Eastland Cemetery Rd.
 Sparta, TN 38583, (931) 935-8200

Hickory Valley Volunteer Fire
Department: 3680 Hickory Valley Rd.
 Sparta, TN 38583, (931) 738-3622

Mt. Gilead Volunteer Fire
Department: 2351 Sullivan Knowles Rd.
 Sparta, TN 38583, (931) 738-2106

North End Volunteer Fire
Department: 115 South Bunker Hill Rd.
 Sparta, TN 38583, (931) 761-3657

Sparta Fire Department:
 715 N. Spring St., Sparta, TN 38583
 (931) 738-7380

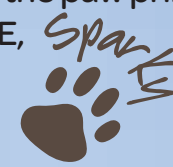
Emergency Management Agency
 (931) 212-9849
 Matt McBride, director
 750 Airport Rd.
 Sparta, TN 38583

911 Emergency Communications District
 931-738-8653
 Suzi Haston, director
 403 Mose Dr.
 Sparta, TN 38583



I SPY FIRE SAFETY

Sparky here with a challenge for you. Use this checklist to go on a safety hunt around your home. If the item on the list is **SAFE**, color the paw print **GREEN**. If the item is **UNSAFE**, color it **RED**. If you are **NOT SURE**, color it **YELLOW**. If any of your paw prints are **RED** or **YELLOW**, ask a grown-up to help make it safe.



I know that some things are hot or can get hot. I stay away from hot things because I can get burned.



We have working smoke alarms on every level of our home and inside every sleeping area. **Clue:** If you don't know if they are working, ask a grown-up to push the test button.



We have a 3-foot (1-meter) "kid-free" zone around hot things like the stove, grill, fireplace, and space heater. We also have a "kid-free" zone when hot food and drinks are being served.



Our family has a home fire escape plan. Our plan includes 2 ways out of every room. **Clue:** One way out can be a door and the second way out might be a window.



Space heaters are turned off whenever a grown-up leaves the room or goes to bed.



My family has an outside meeting place. Our outside meeting place is _____.



I ALWAYS charge my phone on something hard like a bedside table, counter, or desk. I DON'T charge under my pillow, on my bed, or on a couch because that could start a fire.



When I hear the "beep, beep, beep" of a smoke alarm, I get outside and stay outside.



If I see matches and lighters, I don't touch. I walk away and tell a grown-up.



We practice our home fire drill 2 times a year. We practice during the day and at night. The last time we practiced was _____.

We will practice again _____.



Kids

Find more fun stuff at SPARKY.ORG



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Facing Danger. Protecting Lives. Thanks, Firefighters



We salute the brave people who put their lives on the line to protect ours. We are grateful for your selfless service.



Cell: 931-510-7213
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Thank you

RECOGNIZING

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CHERRY CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. Chris Brewington, chief

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CASSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. Teddy Stockton, chief



Fire Prevention Week October 8-14, 2023

BONDECROFT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. Ryan Edmonds, chief



Incident count for agencies Jan. 1, 2022-Dec. 31, 2022

AGENCY	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2022	Apr. 2022	May 2022	Ju. 2022	Jul. 2022	Aug. 2022	Sep. 2022	Oct. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2022	TOTAL
BonDeCroft VFD	29	35	28	34	28	38	30	31	26	27	30	33	369
Cassville VFD	40	36	29	27	29	49	31	36	39	36	38	51	441
Central View VFD	28	24	21	30	37	24	32	31	25	29	27	26	334
Cherry View VFD	29	35	17	20	30	22	26	24	23	28	27	22	303
Doyle VFD	28	21	16	24	24	17	21	29	24	21	26	17	268
Eastland VFD	27	30	24	32	24	39	27	27	28	27	29	34	348
Hickory Valley VFD	29	24	24	23	25	19	21	28	23	25	25	22	288
Mt. Gilead VFD	30	27	19	22	26	19	26	31	25	29	26	28	308
North End VFD	52	51	45	31	38	49	51	50	49	56	54	66	592
Sparta Fire Department	39	54	38	39	47	46	44	45	47	34	45	45	523



Be Aware & Prepared.



Your Agency For Today.
Your Agency For Life!

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SERVICE**

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Rich Thompson 2017

CENTRAL VIEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. Matt McBride, chief



DOYLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. Jason Sparks, chief





EASTLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. Bill Smith, chief

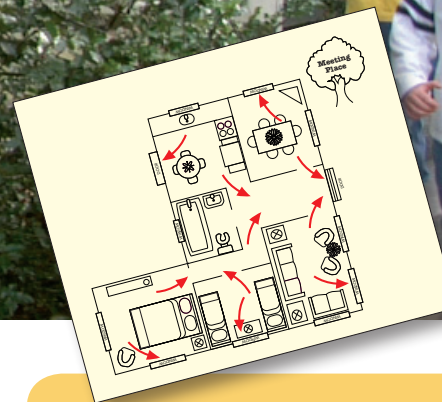
Fire Prevention & Safety

HICKORY VALLEY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. Tyler Brandes, chief



Escape Planning

Plan Ahead! If a fire breaks out in your home, you may have only a few minutes to get out safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Everyone needs to know what to do and where to go if there is a fire.



SAFETY TIPS

- »» MAKE a home escape plan. Draw a map of your home showing all doors and windows. Discuss the plan with everyone in your home.
- »» KNOW at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily.
- »» HAVE an outside meeting place (like a tree, light pole or mailbox) a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet.
- »» PRACTICE your home fire drill at night and during the day with everyone in your home, twice a year.
- »» PRACTICE using different ways out.
- »» TEACH children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- »» CLOSE doors behind you as you leave.

IF THE ALARM SOUNDS...

- »» If the smoke alarm sounds, **GET OUT AND STAY OUT**. Never go back inside for people or pets.
- »» If you have to escape through smoke, **GET LOW AND GO** under the smoke to your way out.
- »» CALL the fire department from outside your home.

FACTS

- ! A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire. Install smoke alarms inside every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home. Smoke alarms should be interconnected. When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound.
- ! According to an NFPA survey, only **one of every three** American households have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan.
- ! While **71%** of Americans have an escape plan in case of a fire, only **47%** of those have practiced it.
- ! **One-third** of American households who made an estimate thought they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life-threatening. The time available is often less. And only **8%** said their first thought on hearing a smoke alarm would be to get out!



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169



MT GILEAD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. Thomas Steele, chief

Fire Prevention & Safety

NORTH END VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT. Andy McCulley, chief





SPARTA FIRE DEPARTMENT. Kirk Young, chief

How to make homes safer from fires

Over a five-year period beginning in 2015 and 2019, fire departments across the United States responded to roughly 347,000 home structure fires per year. That data, courtesy of the National Fire Protection Association, underscores the significance of home fire protection measures.

Smoke detectors are a key component of fire protection, but there's much more homeowners can do to protect themselves, their families, their belongings, and their homes from structure fires.

- Routinely inspect smoke detectors. Smoke detectors can only alert residents to a fire if they're working properly. Battery-powered smoke detectors won't work if the batteries die. Routine smoke detector check-ups can ensure the batteries still have juice and that the devices themselves are still functioning properly. Test alarms

to make sure the devices are functioning and audible in nearby rooms. Install additional detectors as necessary so alarms and warnings can be heard in every room of the house.

- Hire an electrician to audit your home. Electricians can inspect a home and identify any issues that could make the home more vulnerable to fires. Ask electricians to look over every part of the house, including attics and crawl spaces. Oft-overlooked areas like attics and crawl spaces pose a potentially significant fire safety threat, as data from the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) indicates that 13 percent of electrical fires begin in such spaces.

- Audit the laundry room. The laundry room is another potential source of home structure fires. NFPA data indicates around

3 percent of home structure fires begin in laundry rooms each year. Strategies to reduce the risk of laundry room fires include leaving room for laundry to tumble in washers and dryers; routinely cleaning lint screens to avoid the buildup of dust, fiber and lint, which the NFPA notes are often the first items to ignite in fires linked to dryers; and ensuring the outlets washing machines and dryers are plugged into can handle the voltage such appliances require. It's also a good idea to clean dryer exhaust vents and ducts every year.

- Look outward as well. Though the majority of home fires begin inside, the NFPA reports that 4 percent of such fires begin outside the home. Homeowners can reduce the risk of such fires by ensuring all items that utilize fire, including grills and firepits, are always used at least 10

feet away from the home. Never operate a grill beneath eaves, and do not use grills on decks. Never leave children unattended around firepits, as all it takes is a single mistake and a moment for a fire to become unwieldy.

- Sweat the small stuff. Hair dryers, hair straighteners, scented candles, clothes irons, and holiday decorations are some additional home fire safety hazards. Never leave candles burning in empty rooms and make sure beauty and grooming items like dryers, straighteners and irons are unplugged and placed in a safe place to cool down when not in use.

Fire departments respond to hundreds of thousands of home fires each year. Some simple strategies and preventive measures can greatly reduce the risk that a fire will overtake your home.

**Thank you to all
Sparta/White County
firefighters**

