

????Did You Know????

In 2006 in Oregon there were:
-3,294 residential structure fires
-82.1 million dollars of loss in residential structure fires
-25 deaths in residential fires
-237 injuries in residential fires
-72 firefighters injured in residential fires

La Grande Fire Department

Invites you to take a few minutes to make your home safer for you, your family, friends, neighbors and us. We ask you to go through the safety check list and use our recommendations to make your home more fire safe.

Safety Check List

- My address is posted and visible from the street.
- Every sleeping area and level of my home is equipped with a working smoke detector.
- I test my smoke detectors monthly, vacuum annually.
- I have a fire extinguisher (2A-10BC) in my kitchen and know how to use it.
- Matches, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals are stored out of reach of children.
- My kitchen vent and hood is clean and properly maintained.
- I never leave cooking food unattended.
- No combustible materials are stored near cooking areas or heating appliances.

Safety Check List cont.

- Electrical cords are not damaged and are used correctly
- I never smoke in bed or when drowsy.
- The lint collector on my dryer is cleaned before each use.
- I keep my dryer vent line to the outside clean.
- My family has developed and practices an Emergency Escape Plan.
- Each room in my home has two clear exits.
- I keep clothing, furnishings, electrical cords, and combustibles 12 inches from wall heaters and 36 inches from portable heaters.
- I generally practice good house keeping habits in keeping work areas, the garage, heater closets, etc. free of potential fire hazards.
- I check the filter in my furnace monthly and change as needed.
- I have the fireplace or woodstove chimney cleaned annually or twice annually if main source of heat.
- I empty ashes into a metal container placed outside away from combustibles until cold.
- I store combustibles away from the furnace and water heater.
- Paints, thinners, and other flammable liquids are stored in their original containers and away from heat, sparks or flames.

Safety Recommendations

Replace smoke detectors every 10 years. If your detector does not have the 10 year lithium battery and hush feature replace it this year. This was a requirement on all detectors sold in Oregon beginning Jan. 1, 1998.

If an extension cord is in continuous use do not run it under carpet or rugs. Purchase one that is the breaker strip style to use.

Practice your escape plan. (Information about escape plans available at La Grande Fire Department.)

If you have a multiple level home install smoke detectors that are inter-connected.

Share with your babysitter your escape plan and emergency procedures.

Never burn candles unattended, keep candles away from combustibles. Consider using tart burners in place of burning candles.

??Did You Know??

Most fatal fires happen at night and the smell of smoke will not wake you up. Most fire deaths are not caused by burns, rather by smoke and toxic fumes.

Your best line of defense is a working smoke detector.

**For more information call
La Grande Fire at 963-3123.**