



## DJJ Workplace Safety

Fire Prevention Week Oct. 6 – 12, 2013

### PREVENT KITCHEN FIRES

The 2013 National Fire Protection Association fire prevention week focuses on kitchen fire prevention. This issue of *DJJ Safety Source* highlights facts presented by the NFPA concerning kitchen fires and other causes at home attributing to home fires and injury. Workplace safety starts at home and we encourage all employees to keep your family safe from fire and fire injuries through awareness and prevention.

Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries, followed by heating equipment. Smoking is a leading cause of civilian fire deaths. On average, seven people die in U.S. home fires per day.

#### Cooking

Two of every five home fires start in the kitchen. Unattended cooking was a factor in 34% of reported home cooking fires. Two-thirds of home cooking fires started with ignition of food or other cooking materials. Ranges accounted for 58% of home cooking fire incidents. Ovens accounted for 16%.

Children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire. Children should have a 3 foot safe zone around cooking appliances.

Microwave ovens are one of the leading home products associated with scald burn injuries not related to fires. Nearly half (44%) of the microwave oven injuries seen at emergency rooms in 2011 were scald burns. Clothing was the item first ignited in less than 1% of home cooking fires, but these incidents accounted for 16% of the cooking fire deaths.

#### Heating

Portable or fixed space heaters were involved in one third (32%) of home heating fires and four out of five (80%) home heating deaths. Half of home heating fire deaths resulted from fires caused by heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattresses or bedding.

Smoking, candles, dryers and electrical also are major contributors to home fires.

#### Escape Planning

According to a NFPA survey, only one-third of Americans have both developed and practiced a home fire escape plan. Almost one-third of American households do have an escape plan; however, more than half never practiced it. One-third of American households estimate they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their house would be 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!

#### Smoke Alarms

Almost two-thirds (62%) of reported home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half. In fires considered large enough to activate the smoke alarm, hardwired alarms operated 92% of the time, while battery powered alarms operated only 77% of the time.

### This Issue

- Introduction P.1
- Cooking Safety P.2
- Escape Planning P.3
- Smoke Alarm Safety P.4



## OPERATING YOUR EXTINGUISHER



**PULL THE PIN**



**AIM AT THE BASE OF THE FIRE**



**SQUEEZE THE LEVER**



**SWEEP FROM SIDE TO SIDE**

#### IN ADDITION

- TEST EXTINGUISHER PRIOR TO APPROACHING FIRE.
- KEEP LOW & APPROACH WITH WIND AT YOUR BACK.
- BACK AWAY, WATCHING FOR REKINDLE.

# Cooking Safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity and can be relaxing. But did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries? By following a few safety tips you can prevent these fires.

## "COOK WITH CAUTION"

- ❗ Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- ❗ Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- ❗ If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- ❗ Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

## IF YOU HAVE A COOKING FIRE...

- ❗ Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- ❗ Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number after you leave.
- ❗ If you try to fight the fire, be sure others are getting out and you have a clear way out.
- ❗ Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- ❗ For an oven fire turn off the heat and keep the door closed.



## Cooking and Kids

Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

## FACTS

- ❗ The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- ❗ Most cooking fires in the home involve the stovetop.



[www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)



Your Source for SAFETY Information

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

# 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

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

## IF THE ALARM SOUNDS...

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



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information [www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)  
NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

## FACTS

- !** 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!



# Smoke Alarm Safety at Home



Smoke alarms are an important part of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.

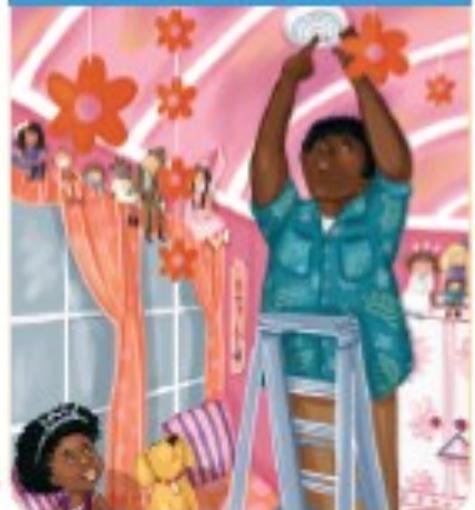
## SAFETY TIPS

- » INSTALL smoke alarms inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- » Larger homes may need ADDITIONAL smoke alarms to provide enough protection.
- » For the best protection, INTERCONNECT all smoke alarms so when one sounds they all sound.
- » An IONIZATION smoke alarm is generally more responsive to flaming fires and a PHOTOELECTRIC smoke alarm is generally more responsive to smoldering fires. For the best protection, both types of alarms or combination ionization and photoelectric alarms (also known as dual sensor alarms) are recommended.
- » Smoke alarms should be INSTALLED away from the kitchen to prevent false alarms. Generally, they should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from a cooking appliance.
- » REPLACE all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

## FACTS

- ! Roughly **two thirds** of home fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.
- ! Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in **half**.

**AND DON'T FORGET...**  
All smoke alarms should be tested at least once a month using the test button.



Your Source for SAFETY Information [www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)  
NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169