

PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS OF WISCONSIN
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



fire safety

NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION

Champions for burn survivors, fire fighters, and safe communities

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 8TH-14TH, 2023

Developing a home fire escape plan

Burn prevention and treatment

*Life-saving information about fire
sprinklers and smoke alarms*

Gas and electrical safety

Bonfire safety

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IN PRIZES AVAILABLE FOR
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**26TH
ANNUAL
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There was no editing or reporting from the newsroom involved.

Newspaper In Education
journal sentinel

KNOW YOUR POWER

Lithium-Ion Battery Fire Safety & Prevention

By Lindsey M. McKee

With so much new technology powering up our lives, ever wonder what's powering our technology? The answer is most often lithium-ion batteries.

According to Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Research Institute, lithium-ion is most used in batteries for key electronics. Think mobile phones, laptops, wireless headphones, electric vehicles, cordless power tools, solar panels and more.

"Lithium-ion batteries are increasingly found in devices and systems that people in our community use every day," said Michael Wos, executive director of the Professional Firefighters of Wisconsin Charitable Foundation. "Batteries are getting smaller, more portable, and more efficient, and lithium-ion is becoming more prevalent because of that."

But with great power, can come great risk. UL Fire Safety Research Institutes says fires involving lithium-ion batteries are rising at alarming rates, presenting an entirely new fire safety challenge. For consumers, knowledge is the real power.

Start With Prevention

Much of the preventive work for lithium-ion battery safety has already been done. Before a device goes on sale, the battery, its accessories, and the device itself are all tested and certified.

With that pre-testing complete, the consumer's job is easier. Using new devices in good condition with their compatible parts and closely following instructions are safety measures themselves, Wos said.

Keep lithium-ion batteries away from heat sources such as direct sunlight or very hot

spaces. Unplug chargers when not in use and only charge devices when you are near enough to detect a potential issue.

"There's a greater likelihood of such batteries overheating, catching fire, and leading to explosions or violent release of energy when they're improperly used, charged or stored," Wos said.

Avoid storing large amount of lithium-ion batteries and battery-powered devices together, which can cause more extensive damage and injury in a fire emergency. Batteries should be stored in cool places and disposed of at a designated battery recycling center rather than regular trash.

Obey the Warning Signs

Another safety measure is recognizing and acting upon noticeable clues that a product requires attention. Lithium-ion batteries can often overheat and swell when the accompanying device is not allowed or not able to cool properly. Odd noises coming from the device can also indicate the device is struggling to work well and to work safely.

When the device has experienced unchecked overheating, consumers may also notice an odor or change in device shape or color. This requires immediate repair or replacement to prevent a larger emergency later.

"Make the proper repairs and with correct parts for that item," Wos said. "Do not try to fix it yourself or use incorrect parts, which can damage the battery and cause problems. Be cognizant of those things realizing that those batteries are powerful for their size."

In Case of Fire

In some cases, overheated and sparking devices can lead to a fire emergency. Consumers should take

vital steps to stay safe from injury and minimize property loss.

If the device can be handled safely, Wos said consumers may move the item away from people, property, and flammables. And reach for a fire extinguisher rather than water.

"Water is not always your best friend when it comes to these types of emergencies," Wos said. "Exotic chemicals can react violently with water, jumping around and causing more harm."

If the product cannot be handled safely and has caused a fire, consumers should get to a safe place away from the item and call 911 immediately. If in a moving vehicle, be sure to place the vehicle in park before exiting and calling 911 for assistance.

Devices should remain top-of-mind even when not the source of a fire emergency. Lithium-ion batteries and the devices they power are highly flammable and combustible, creating a larger hazard.

"Fires today continue to be deadlier, faster, and more toxic than ever," Wos said. "Not only is this a danger to the community, but it's also a danger to firefighters. That's why all of us need to use greater caution."

Have No Fear

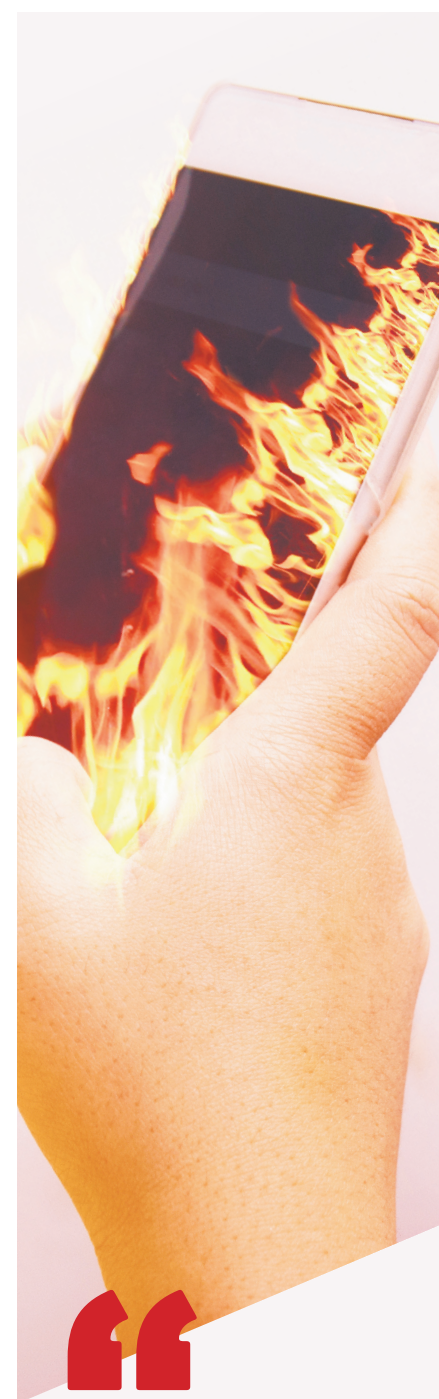
Although consumers should remain vigilant against fires, Wos said consumers should not be fearful. Fire professionals continue to learn and develop their knowledge and abilities to combat fire emergencies every single day. Consumers only need to worry about correct usage and precaution for their lithium-ion battery-powered products.

"Device companies provide us with the tools and resources to practice proper usage of their products," Wos said. "As long as we use our devices responsibly and correctly, they will continue to be safe."

SOURCES

"Where Are Lithium-Ion Batteries?" Underwriters Laboratories Research Institutes, September 2021.

"Online Training Available: The Science of Fire and Explosion Hazards from Lithium-Ion Batteries," Underwriters Laboratories Fire Safety Research Institutes, January 2023.



As long as we use our devices responsibly and correctly, they will continue to be safe."

Michael Wos



ATTENTION STUDENTS:

ENTER OUR POSTER CONTEST FOR A CHANCE TO WIN

WINNERS
IN EACH GRADE
LEVEL WILL WIN
UP TO **\$100!**

FROM THE
FIRE FIGHTERS
FOUNDATION



Help us spread the word about fire safety through art! Students in grades K-12 are encouraged to enter a poster submission into our fire safety poster contest. Ideas for poster entries include emphasizing a safety tip, promoting National Fire Prevention Week, or promoting fire safety in general. Your poster may even be recognized in upcoming promotional materials, including in next year's Newspapers in Education program, on PFFWCF's website, and on social media.

DEADLINE

- Postmarked by December 31, 2023
- Awards will be posted by Friday, January 26th, 2024

JUDGING

All entries will be judged by a panel of Wisconsin fire-safety experts based on the following criteria:

- 50% effectiveness of the message
- 25% creativity
- 25% artistic ability

RULES

- Poster must be submitted by a student in pre-K-12th grade.
- Any format of art is accepted -- pencil, crayon, ink, watercolor, etc.
- All entries must include the artist's name, grade, school, teacher, address,

telephone number, and email address (a school address, phone number, and email address are also acceptable).

This information must be included on the back of the artwork or firmly attached for identification purposes.

- Dimensions must be 8.5" x 11" or 11"x17"
- All artwork must be submitted in hard-copy format. If you are submitting computer generated artwork, it must be printed. Electronic files will not be accepted.
- Only one entry per student.

PRIZES

1ST PLACE \$100
in each grade level

2ND PLACE \$50
in each grade level

3RD PLACE \$25
in each grade level

SEE PAGE 15 FOR ENTRY FORM

For more information visit www.pffwcf.org/firesafety

The Fire Fighters Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity. We are champions for burn survivors, fire fighters, and safe communities across Wisconsin.

Contact information: 321 E Main St, Suite 200 Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 630-8440 • Mike@pffwcf.org

The Fire Fighters Foundation would like to thank the following organizations and individuals for their hard work and continued support of this life-saving publication:

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Mark Missurelli - NIE Supervisor; Brianna Fredericks & Raymond Seibel of DesignIQ - Graphic Design; PFFWCF, Michael Vos - Executive Director, Aine King - Program Coordinator; Jacob Deutsch - Development Specialist, Jacob Casella - Communications & Marketing Intern; and Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services.

Burns and How to Prevent Them

Lori Mickelson, RN, MSN
UW Health Burn Program Manager

As the only adult and pediatric verified burn center in the state of Wisconsin, the UW Health burn team needs to look at burn etiology trends for people of all ages. An analysis of 2019-2022 UW Health burn center admission data detailed the top three burn types (from highest frequency to less) that led to a hospital stay.

Pediatric (children, ages 0-18 years):	Adult:
• Scald	• Flame
• Contact	• Scald
• Flame	• Flash

These trends have guided the team on what prevention education to share with the public. After all, most burn injuries are preventable, so the UW Health burn team is motivated to help people realize how to be safer. The skin is the largest organ of the human body and no matter the amount of skin affected, a burn injury can be life changing.

Burn Definitions:

A **scald burn** occurs when skin contacts hot liquid, food, or steam. The severity of the injury depends on the temperature to which the skin is exposed and for length of exposure. Children and elderly adults have thinner skin, so the length of exposure to a hot liquid or food that leads to an injury is much shorter compared to a healthy adult.

A **contact burn** is acquired when one touches a hot object, like the burner on a stove, the oven door, a hot pot or pan, the ring of a fire pit, the glass on a fireplace, or a muffler. Like scald, the longer length of exposure, the more severe the injury.

A **flame burn** is an injury to the skin and/or other tissues from a fire source. Most common method of flame injury that the burn center sees are people who have fallen into a camp or brush fire.

A flash burn is caused by an explosion of natural gas, propane, gasoline, or an-



other flammable liquid. The severity depends on the length of exposure to the heat from the explosion.

Burn Prevention:

Determining how to connect and engage with people to make a behavior change is a priority for prevention education planning. Convincing people to break a habit can be difficult, so ensuring that people are aware of the impact of unsafe habits is a priority.

Scald and **contact burn** injuries most often occur in the home; the kitchen and bathroom, especially.

Kitchen: Safe food handling and cooking are necessary. To do that, the creation of a 'no kid zone' in the kitchen, especially while an adult is cooking helps to prevent kids from having food spilled on them, or from them accidentally pulling a pot of hot food or liquid onto themselves. Additionally, placing pots and pans on the back burner with the handles turned away from the edge of the stove, will help prevent accidental spills. A child can't grab the handle and an adult can't brush against and push a pot if the back burner is used and the handle is turned away.

To act as a guide/reminder, the UW Health burn team hands out a 3-foot tape measure to reinforce the 'no kid zone'.

Microwave safety is another priority. Foods that come out of the microwave should be handled just like foods from the

oven. Hot pads or mitts should be worn when removing the food, and microwave use by children should be limited.

Utilizing mugs with tight fitting lids for hot drinks can prevent scald burns for all ages. Travel mugs with lids are handed out to reinforce this need.

Bathroom: The water heater temperature should be set at 120 degrees Fahrenheit. While this temperature does not eliminate the possibility of a burn, it does help increase the time it takes to cause the burn. Bathtub temperature cards are handed out by the burn team to detail the safer bathing temperature.

To avoid contact burns from curling irons or other beauty appliances, cords should not be left dangling and the device should be kept out of the reach from children.

Living Room: A gate should be placed in front of a fireplace to keep crawlers or early walkers from accidentally touching the glass doors.

Flame and **flash burns** most often occur outside, usually while one is burning wood, brush or trash.

Yard/Field/Campground/Beach: The 3-foot safe zone should be utilized by people of all when around a camp or brush fire. This entails standing or sitting at least 3 feet away from the flames. People should measure that distance and assign at least one person to help hold everyone accountable. It's important to completely extinguish a fire with

water and to not leave a fire unattended.

To avoid a flash burn, accelerants, including but not limited to gasoline, kerosene, aerosol sprays or diesel fuel should never be applied to a fire to get it going or to keep it going. Also, aerosol containers should never be burned and nothing, besides wood should be placed or thrown into a fire. According to the American Burn Association, "gasoline is an extremely flammable liquid and vapor-the fumes are capable of ignition up to 12 feet from a pooled source". While the UW Health Burn Center doesn't see if often, gasoline-soaked clothes can lead to chemical burns. So, if gasoline spills on clothes, then the individual should remove the clothing immediately and shower.

To not bombard any individual with a bunch of facts and preventative measures, the timing to address certain topics is considered. More specifically, there are seasonal trends for injury types. In the fall, winter and spring, scald burns are most prevalent amongst children and adults. In the summer, flame and contact burns are the leading cause of burn; all related to campfire or brushfires (open flame or contact with coals and ashes). Therefore, campfire safety is emphasized throughout summer.

A variety of education offerings is utilized by the UW Health burn prevention team. Education includes verbal, interactive demonstrations, and written handouts. The team tries to attend community events that allow safety messages to be shared. However, it's media outlets like this newspaper that allows the team to connect with a higher volume of people.

Despite burn prevention efforts, the injury can occur. Know that the UW Health Burn Center is ready to take care of you!

**This article focused only on the burn types detailed by the 2019-2022 data findings. There are additional burn injury types including chemical, electrical, radiant/laser. Please reference the American Burn Association website to learn more about burn injuries and prevention (Advocacy & Prevention – American Burn Association (ameriburn.org))*

Fire pit and campfire safety zone

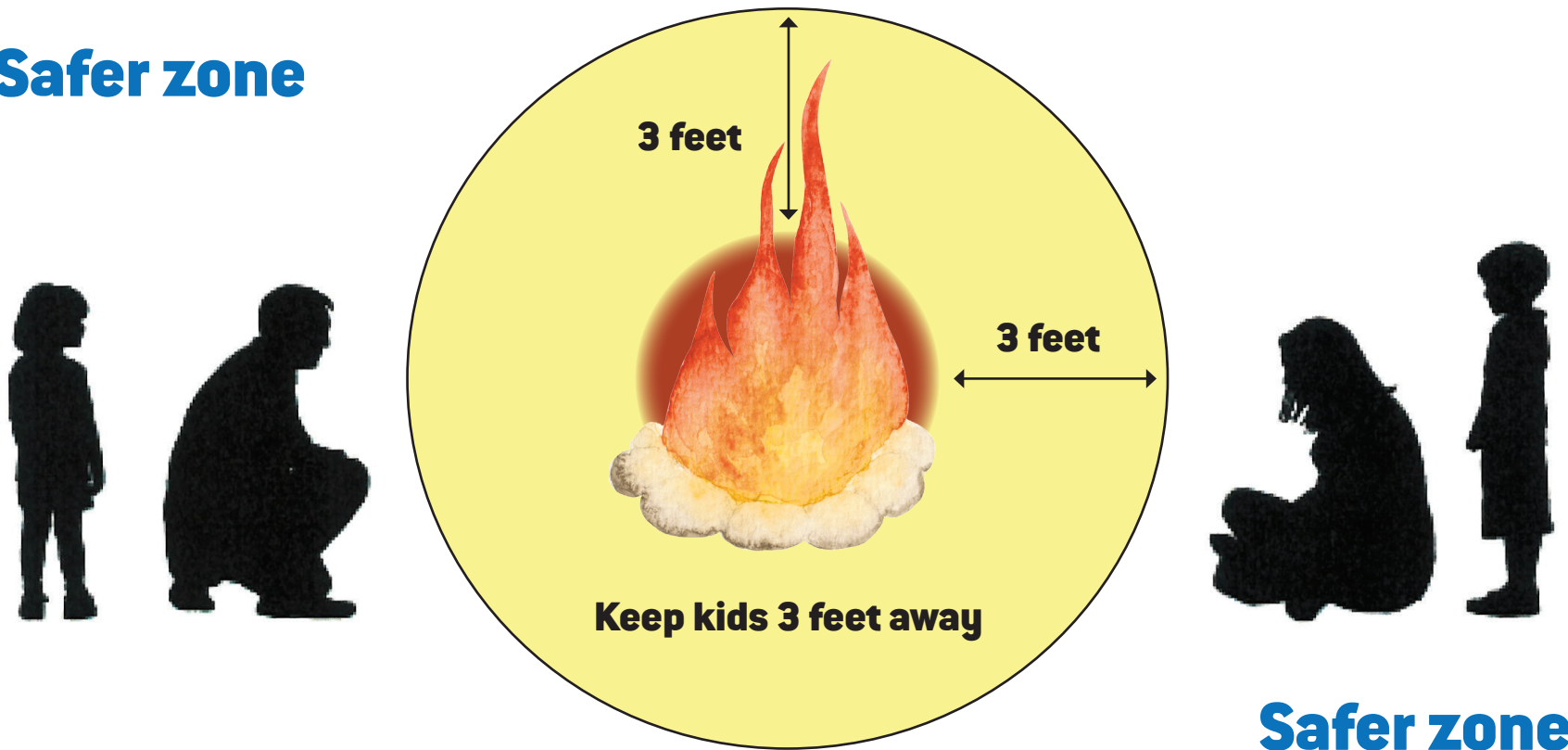


Fire pit and campfire coals or embers can remain hot for more than 24 hours. This is true even after the fire looks like it is out!

Each year many children and teens are burned from tripping and falling into fire pits or campfires. Always supervise children and teens near a fire pit or campfire, even if you think the fire is out. Be sure to put out campfires and fire pits completely with large amounts of water.

Make sure kids of all ages stay at least 3 feet away from a fire pit or campfire, even when there is no fire burning.

Safer zone



Safer zone

If your child is burned, pour cool water on the burn and seek medical care immediately. Even a small burn can be a big deal.

For more health and wellness information check out this resource:

<https://kidshealth.org/ChildrensWi/en/parents>

ALERT: Call your child's doctor, nurse, or clinic if you have any questions or concerns or if your child has special health care needs that were not covered by this information.

This sheet was created to help you care for your child or family member. It does not take the place of medical care. Talk with your healthcare provider for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up.



By Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Regional Burn Center

What do you spy in your house?

Did you know that many liquid household items are flammable? People don't always associate liquids with starting a fire but there are several liquid household items that pose a possible fire risk. By knowing the risks and taking a few precautions, you can help protect yourself from getting burned and prevent one of the 350,000 annual house fires from happening.

HAND SANITIZER

Hand sanitizer is very useful in helping with the prevention of spreading germs, but many of them are alcohol based so they ignite easily at a low temperature. Although rare, there are cases when fires have been started by hand sanitizer and static electricity. Remember to use a small amount and allow it to dry before coming in contact with a flame.

LAUNDRY DETERGENT

The majority of all laundry products, such as liquid detergents, pods, liquid fabric softeners and stain removers are flammable. It is important to store these items safely and away from heat sources.

NAIL POLISH REMOVER

Acetone, found in nail polish remover, is highly flammable. Even the fumes from the acetone can be ignited from several feet away. Refrain from removing nail polish near candles.

COOKING OIL

Grease fires are one of the leading causes of kitchen fires and home fire injuries. Never throw water on a frying pan that has caught fire. Cover the pan with a lid or cookie sheet.

AEROSOLS

Think hairspray, air fresheners, sunscreen, or spray paint. Many aerosols contain propane and butane which is highly flammable. Open flames and lit cigarettes should be kept away from aerosol cans. Even empty aerosol cans be hazardous.

If there is a fire in your home, remember to get out of the house as quickly as possible. Leave your belongings behind. Smoke rises, stay low. Meet your family outside the house at the designated meeting spot. And finally, if your clothing catches fire, remember to **STOP-DROP-ROLL**.

Scald Burn Safety

By Safe Kids Wisconsin

When you think about getting burned, you probably think of fires and not about a scald burn. A scald burn occurs when the skin comes in contact with a hot liquid or steam. Young children and the elderly are at greater risk of a more serious injury from a hot liquid, as their skin is much thinner than adults.

The majority of scald burn injuries occur in the kitchen and bathroom. When microwaves were invented, cooking for older children became easier. Unfortunately, there was also an increase in the number of scald burns when taking food out of the microwave after it was done cooking.



Here are some ways to help keep safe:

1. Have your caregiver in the kitchen with you when you are cooking.
2. Keep little children out of the kitchen when cooking.
3. Be sure to use oven mitts or hot pads when taking the hot food out of the microwave.
4. When opening a container that has been in the microwave, always be sure to open the container away from your body. This will allow the steam to come out away from you.
5. Use the back burners on the stove so the pans don't accidentally get bumped or pulled off the stove.
6. Keep hot food and beverages away from the edge of the counter or table.
7. Do not place hot liquids, such as soup, in your lap when you eat it.
8. Have your caregivers set the hot water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Always test the temperature of the bath water before getting into the tub, or from the faucet before putting your hand under the water.

IF you should get a scald burn:

1. Remove any clothing from the burn.
2. "Cool the Burn". Run cool water over the burn for 10-20 minutes. Do not apply ice, creams, or other products to the burn.
3. Cover the area with a clean dry dressing.
4. Seek medical help.

For more information on fire safety, please visit safekidswi.org.



SAFE
KIDS
WISCONSIN

Led by
Children's
Wisconsin

Safe Kids Wisconsin is a member of Safe Kids Worldwide, a global coalition working to prevent unintentional injuries and death in children 19 and younger. Children's Wisconsin is the lead agency for Safe Kids Wisconsin.



Lithium-ion batteries supply power to many kinds of devices including smart phones, laptops, e-scooters and e-bikes, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys, and even cars. If not used correctly, or if damaged, these batteries can catch on fire or explode.

The problem

- These batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space.
- Sometimes batteries are not used the right way; batteries not designed for a specific use can be dangerous.
- Like any product, a small number of these batteries are defective. They can overheat, catch fire, or explode.

Safety Tips

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Put batteries in the device the right way.
- Only use the charging cord that came with the device.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Signs of a Problem

Stop using the battery if you notice these problems: odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises. If it is safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire. Call 9-1-1.

Battery Disposal

- Do not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash.
- Recycling is always the best option.
- Take them to a battery recycling location or contact your community for disposal instructions.
- Do not put discarded batteries in piles

Charging an E-bike

Charge your battery in a flat, dry area away from children, direct sunlight, liquids, tripping hazards, and in a location where the e-bike is not at risk of falling.

- Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.

Protect Your Family at Home

Did you know that each year, on average, there are over 360,000 home fires in the United States? Home is a place where we feel safe and protected, but there are a few things you can do to help prevent fires and keep your family safe.

In the kitchen:

- While cooking, keep items away from the stovetop and oven that may catch fire, such as pot holders, towels and clothing.
- Cooking fires are the leading cause of fires in homes; stay near food while cooking and monitor the level of heat. It only takes a second for a fire to start!
- Microwaves seem like a safer choice for cooking, but scald burns happen almost as often as burns from a fire or flame. Food and liquids can get to very high temperatures, even though they may not be boiling or appear hot. Be cautious and always use pot holders when pulling items out of the microwave.

In the living room and bedroom:

- Space heaters should be kept at least 3 feet away from anything that may catch fire, such as curtains, bedding and all furniture. Be sure to check with an adult before turning on a space heater.
- Electrical plugs should not be overloaded. Avoid using extension cords or plug adapters as this may overload the outlet.
- Keep electrical cords out from under rugs and check for fraying. Do not use a cord that is frayed.
- Avoid placing items on or near lamps that could catch fire.
- Extinguish any burning candles when leaving the room.

While these simple things can help prevent a fire, it's still most important to make sure your family has working smoke alarms on every floor of your house and in each bedroom. Checking them regularly is one of the most important things you and your family can do to be safe in your own home! For more information visit www.safekidswi.org

Fun with Fire Sprinklers

For Teachers and Parents:

Have younger children color the various parts of the picture:

- Fire as red
- Smoke as grey
- Water as blue
- Fire sprinkler head as light brown

Further fire safety information available at:

[Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov)

[NFPA.org/fpw](https://www.nfpa.org/fpw)

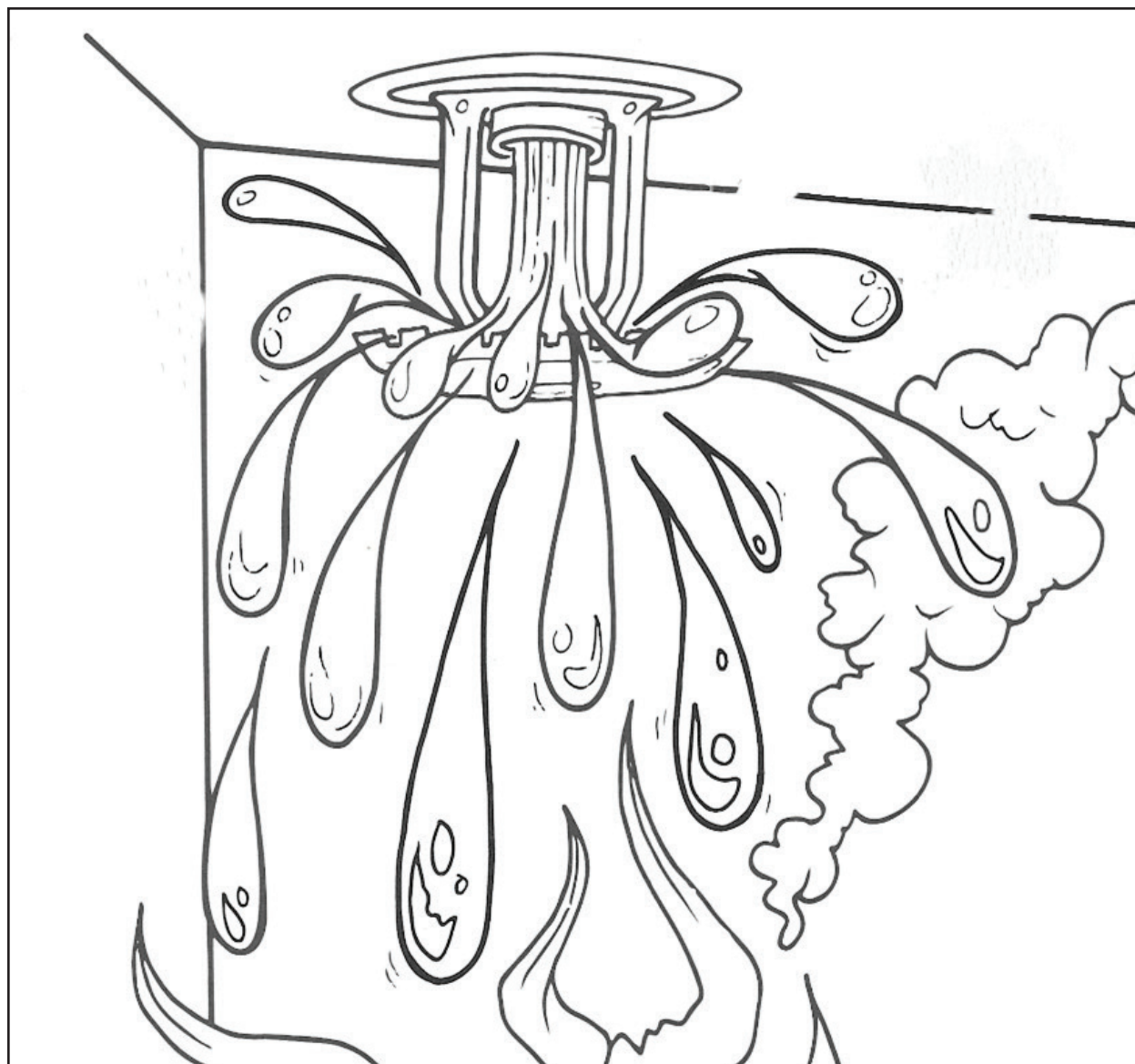
[Homefiresprinkler.org](https://www.homefiresprinkler.org)

[Firesprinklersbuyalife.com](https://www.firesprinklersbuyalife.com)

[Sparky.org](https://www.sparky.org)

Fire is FAST! In less than 30 seconds a small flame can turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill a house or for it to be engulfed in flames.

Fire is HOT! Heat is more threatening than flames. Room temperatures in a fire can be 100 degrees at floor level and rise to 600 degrees at eye level. Inhaling this super-hot air will scorch your lungs and melt clothes to your skin.



Artwork courtesy of the United States Fire Administration

Fire is DARK! Fire starts brightly, but quickly produces black smoke and complete darkness.

Fire is DEADLY! Smoke and toxic gases kill more people than flames do. Fire produces poisonous gases that make you disoriented and drowsy.

Fire sprinklers are Fast! Sprinklers will contain and may even extinguish a fire in less time than it takes the fire department to arrive.

Fire sprinklers activate with heat. Fire sprinklers activate around 155 degrees and keep the heat low so you can escape.



FEMA



U.S. Fire
Administration



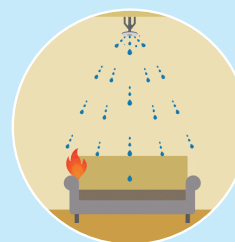
Install home fire sprinklers.

Home fire sprinklers and smoke alarms increase your chance of surviving a fire by more than 82%.



Home fire sprinklers work only where they are needed

The sprinkler closest to the fire will open, spraying water on the fire.



Home fire sprinklers protect lives by keeping fires small.

Sprinklers can reduce the heat, flames and smoke from a fire, giving you more time to escape.

DO YOU KNOW HOW A FIRE SPRINKLER WORKS?

By the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition

Home Fires Are Very Dangerous

One of the biggest myths about fire sprinklers is that they all go off at once. But sprinklers do not work that way. Each sprinkler has a special plug that keeps the water in the pipes. If a fire starts, the high heat in the area below the sprinkler causes the plug to open. That lets water flow on the flames. The sprinkler closest to

the fire activates. All the other sprinklers remain sealed. The sprinkler will put the fire out or keep it small until firefighters arrive. That prevents the fire from spreading and becoming deadly. A sprinkler will not activate if there is smoke in the room, only heat from a fire.

While the sprinkler controls the fire, people and their pets have time to escape. When firefighters arrive, they make sure everyone is safe. They make sure the fire is out and turn off the water. Fire sprinklers also protect

firefighters because they do not have to enter a home with deadly fire and poison smoke.

Home Fires Are Very Dangerous

Fires happen fast and grow quickly! There is little time to escape a fire. In less than two minutes a small flame can grow into a major fire. The reason a house fire spreads so quickly is because our furniture, carpet and electronics are made of synthetic materials. These burn quickly, making poison smoke.

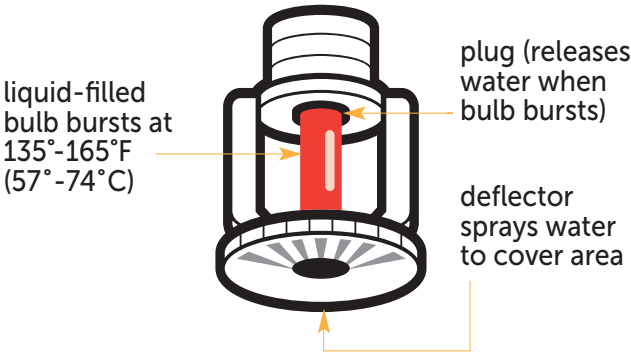
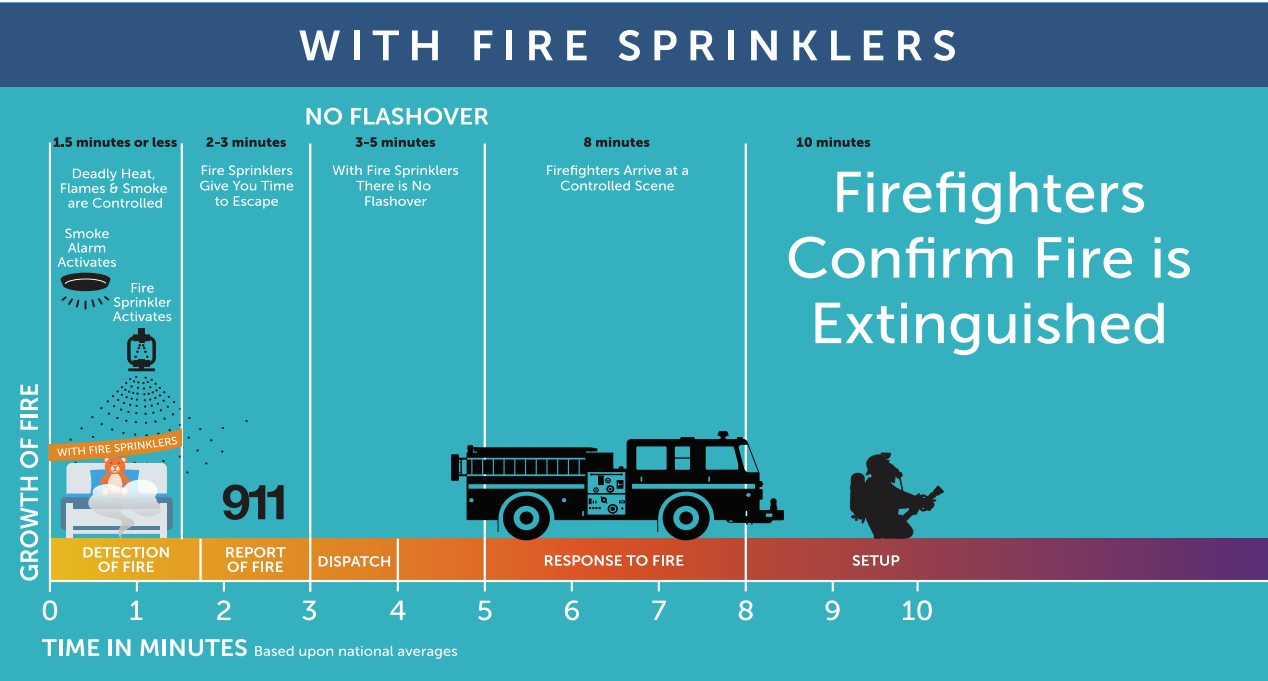
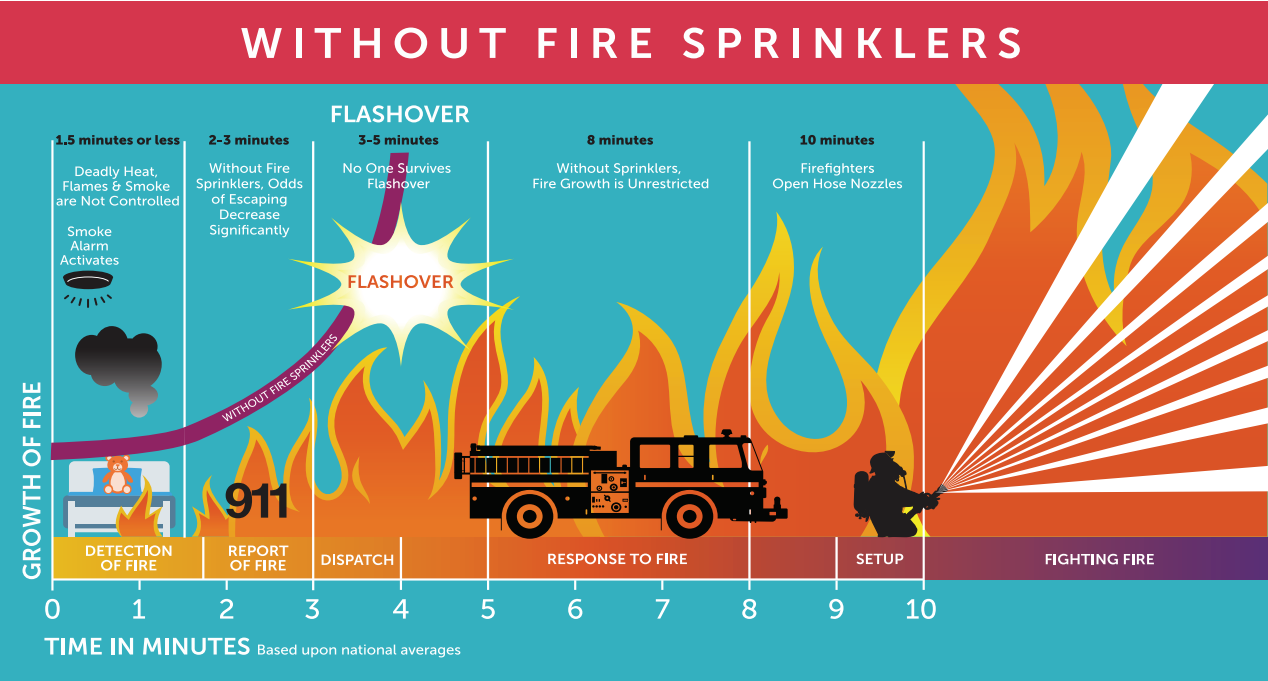
Fire Sprinklers Protect the Environment

A fire in a home without sprinklers is more harmful to the environment. It causes a lot of air and water pollution. It causes a lot of damage to property.

A home fire sprinkler controls the fire with far less water than the fire department. High-pressure hoses use more than 10 times the amount of water per minute.

When a fire sprinkler keeps the fire small or puts it out, there is less pollution in the air and in water runoff. It also means less water is needed to control the fire. Preventing fire damage in the home means fewer materials get hauled to the landfill.

Fire Sprinklers are simple, reliable and proven. Fire sprinklers protect people, pets, firefighters and property 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.



FIRE MOVES FAST. PLAN AHEAD TO SAVE LIVES.

You may only have three minutes or less to escape once a fire starts in your home. Take these steps to increase your chances of survival.



Install Working Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms give you and your loved ones the earliest warning possible that there is a fire, so you can get out of your home quickly and safely. Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Check your smoke alarms twice a year and replace them once they stop working according to the manufacturer's recommendations. When replacing or buying new smoke alarms, look for products that are third-party listed or certified.



Close Before You Doze®

A closed door can be an effective barrier against deadly levels of carbon monoxide, smoke, and flames, and may give you more time to respond to the smoke alarm. In fact, there can be a 900-degree Fahrenheit temperature difference between a room with an open door and one with a closed door. While a room with an open door may reach 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit a room with a closed door may only reach 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Make closing doors at night part of your bedtime routine.



Create and Practice a Fire Escape Plan

If there is a fire in your home, there won't be time to plan a way out in the moment. Create an escape plan for your home and practice it with your family so you're ready for a fire emergency. Don't wait, plan ahead. Make sure your Fire Escape Plan includes a Plan A, B and C!

Watch this video to see the dramatic difference a closed door can make during a fire:



Learn more here at closeyourdoor.org

Know at least **two** ways out.

Plan A Exit your home through the closest door, close the door behind you and go to your meeting place. Call 9-1-1. Make sure the fire department knows if/when everyone is out.

Plan B When you can't safely escape through the closest door, you may need to use an alternate exit such as a window. If you can, close the window/door behind you as you leave. Then go to your meeting place and call 9-1-1. Make sure the fire department knows if/when everyone is out.

Plan C If you can't get out, get behind a closed door, turn on the light and call 9-1-1, telling the dispatcher where you are inside the home.

If you can't get out, use PLAN C.

- Get into a room as far away from the fire as possible, close the door and turn on the light.
- Once inside, call 9-1-1, telling the dispatcher where you are and that you cannot get out.
- Stay low to the floor.
- Cover the cracks in the doors with clothes, towels, drapes, or anything else available.
- Cover the air vents if needed.
- If smoke is entering the room and air is needed, open the window to keep the smoke above your head. Start by opening the lower pane and remove both if it becomes necessary.
- Remain near the window for fresh air.
- Make yourself known to the firefighters when they arrive — wave, signal with a flashlight, call out for help.

Make Your Escape Plan

1. Talk it through.

Meet with everyone who lives in your home to discuss what to do in case of a fire emergency. Write down your escape plan.

2. Draw a map of your home.

Include each level of your home, every room, window, door and all other exit points.

3. Determine two ways out of every room and what to do if you can't get out.

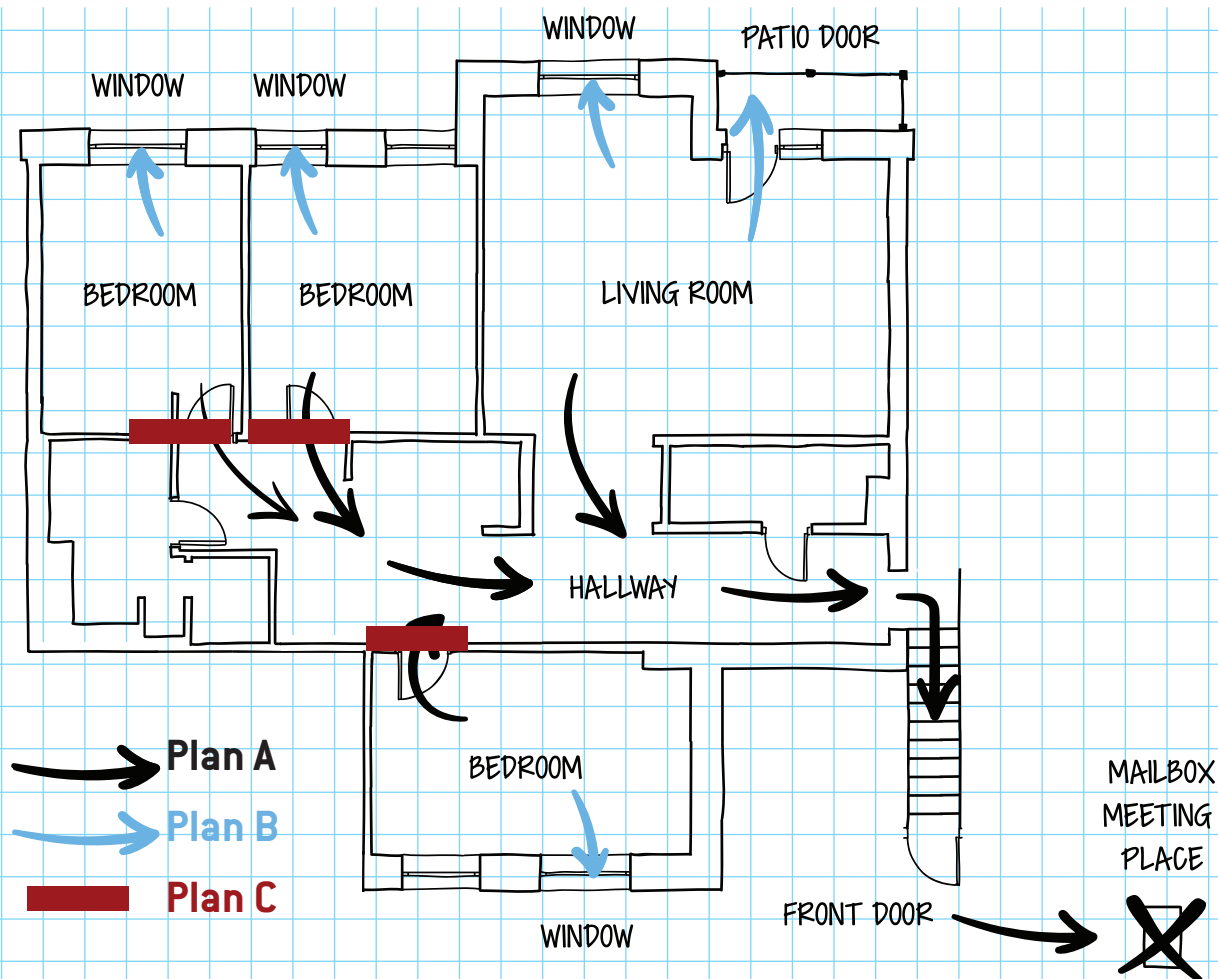
If one way is blocked or already filled with smoke and fire, having an alternate route will save time. If you can't exit safely, get behind a closed door and call 9-1-1.

4. Designate an outside meeting place.

It is important for everyone to have an agreed upon meeting place outside so that the fire department can confirm whether everyone is out or if someone may be inside.

5. Review and practice your escape plan.

Discuss and practice this plan with everyone living in the home including any overnight guests. Make sure everyone understands Plan A, B, & C.



A B

If you can get out,
STAY OUT!

Call 9-1-1 and tell the fire department if/when everyone is out of the house.

C

CAN'T GET OUT?

Follow Plan C!

Get behind a closed door and call 9-1-1. Tell the dispatcher exactly where you are and that you cannot get out.

Talk it through. Map it out. Practice your plan.

Use the graph paper provided on the next page or any blank sheet of paper to draw out your plan. The most important step is to make sure everyone in your home understands and is capable of following the plan.



Learn more at closeyourdoor.org. 2021 Underwriters Laboratories Inc. UL and the UL logo are trademarks of UL LLC.



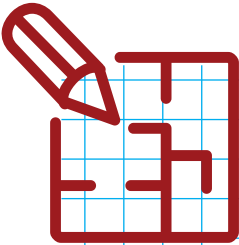
MAKE A HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN



WITH THE FIRE FIGHTERS FOUNDATION

STEPS:

- ☐ Draw a floor plan or map of your home showing all doors and windows.
- ☐ Find and mark two ways out of every room.
- ☐ Mark all smoke alarms in your home. Remember, you should have a smoke alarm in every bedroom, outside of every bedroom, and on each level of your home.
- ☐ Agree on a meeting place with your family and draw it outside your home.
- ☐ Don't forget to practice your fire escape plan at least twice a year.



I, _____, CERTIFY THAT I KNOW 2 WAYS TO GET OUT OF MY HOUSE IF THERE IS A FIRE.

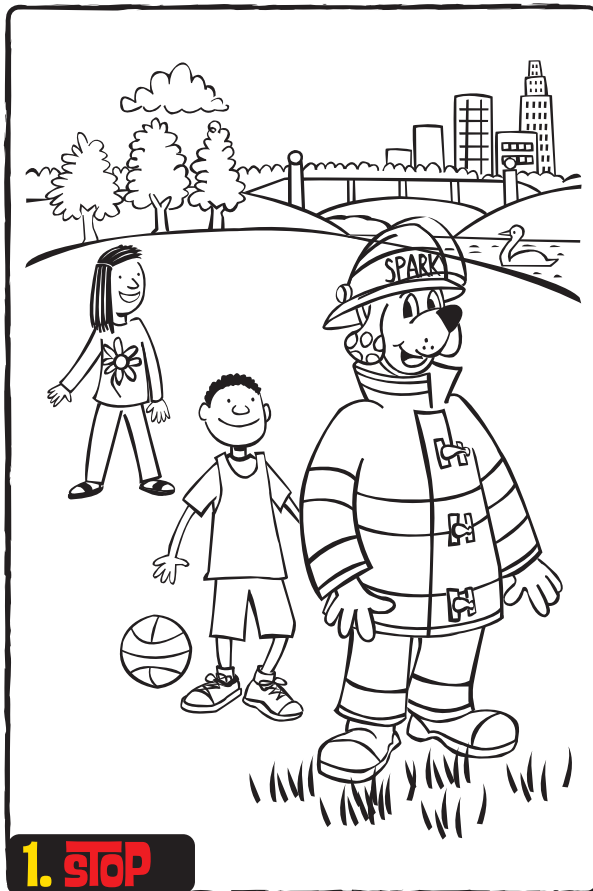
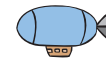
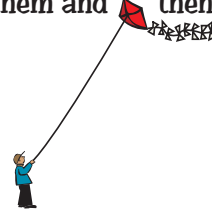
CHAMPIONS FOR BURN SURVIVORS, FIRE FIGHTERS, AND SAFE COMMUNITIES.



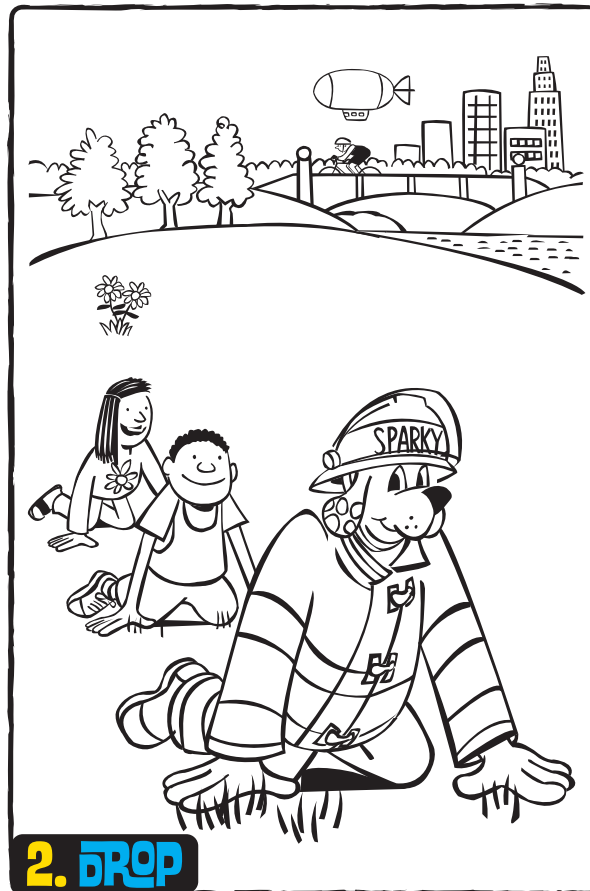
Sparky wants you to learn to stop, drop, and roll if your clothes catch fire. Can you find the objects below in the pictures? Circle them and then color the pictures.



Developed by the NFPA.
1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169
The name and image of Sparky® are trademarks of the NFPA.



1. STOP



2. DROP



3. ROLL

2023 Fire Safety Newspaper in Education Quiz

Burns and How to Prevent Them

1. A scald burn occurs when skin contacts _____, _____, or _____.
2. _____ and _____ burn injuries most often occur in the home, the kitchen and bathroom, especially.
3. What should you wear on your hands when taking food out of the microwave?
 - a. Oven mitts and hot pads
 - b. Nothing
 - c. Winter Gloves
 - d. Rubber Gloves

Fire Pit and Campfire Safety

4. How far away should you stand from a fire pit?
 - a. 6 feet
 - b. 6 inches
 - c. 3 feet
 - d. 30 feet
5. What materials are safe to use to put out a fire?
 - a. Water
 - b. Dirt
 - c. Sand
 - d. All of the above
6. Ice is NOT safe to put on a burn. TRUE / FALSE

I Spy...

7. Which of the following are flammable?
 - a. Hand sanitizer
 - b. Cooking oil
 - c. Laundry detergent
 - d. All of the above

8. NEVER throw _____ on a frying pan that has caught fire.

Protect Your Family at Home

9. Cooking fires are the leading cause of fires in homes. TRUE / FALSE
10. What are a few things that can cause fires in a living room or bedroom? (Circle all that apply)
 - A candle, Frayed electrical cord, Overloaded outlets, Space heaters

Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

11. List 3 places lithium-ion batteries are found:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

12. What are 3 signs that there is a problem with a battery?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

13. It is dangerous to charge a device under your _____, on your _____, or on a _____.
14. How should you dispose of a battery?
 - a. In the trash
 - b. Recycle them
 - c. Throw them away in a pile

Fire Sprinklers

15. _____ is more threatening than flames
16. Only the fire sprinkler closest to the fire will go off. TRUE / FALSE

17. You are _____ % more likely to survive a fire with smoke alarms and fire sprinklers.
 - a. 6%
 - b. 82%
 - c. 56%
 - d. 12%

Do You Know How a Fire Sprinkler Works?

18. Fire sprinklers all go off at once. TRUE / FALSE
19. The sprinkler will put the fire _____ or keep it _____ until firefighters arrive
20. How quickly can a small flame grow into a major fire?
 - a. 3 hours
 - b. 10 minutes
 - c. Less than 2 minutes
 - d. More than 2 minutes

21. A fire in a home without sprinklers can cause ...
 - a. Harm to the environment
 - b. Air and water pollution
 - c. Property damage
 - d. All of the above

Energy Safety

22. What does natural gas smell like?
 - a. Fish
 - b. Rotten eggs
 - c. Smoke
 - d. Nothing
23. What should you NEVER do near power lines _____ or _____
24. Electricity+ _____ = DANGER

Energy safety

from We Energies

Electricity and natural gas are important parts of your daily life. You use them to heat your home, cook your food and power things like TVs and computers. That's why it's important to use energy safely. Follow these rules to stay safe around electricity and natural gas:



Natural gas smells stinky — like rotten eggs.

If you smell natural gas, do not use a light switch or even a phone, which could make a spark and cause a fire or explosion. Get everyone out of the house and tell a trusted adult to call We Energies for help.

Stay away from power lines. Stay far away from all power lines — especially when they're lying on the ground. Never climb trees or fly kites near power lines. And don't release metallic balloons outdoors — they may touch power lines, causing fires and outages.

Outlets are for plugs.

Don't put your fingers or any object other than a plug into an electrical outlet. And keep electrical appliances away from water. Electricity + Water = DANGER.



Call before you dig. Before doing any digging or planting in your yard, have an adult call Diggers Hotline at 811 to have the electric and natural gas lines in the ground marked for free. And don't pull out marker flags until the work is complete; others working in your yard may need to know where underground utilities are located to avoid a dangerous accident.

Mr. Ouch means danger.

Never play near electrical equipment such as substations, power poles or transformers (green boxes). When you see Mr. Ouch, don't touch.



Go to [we-energies.com](https://www.we-energies.com) for more energy safety information.

Energy you can depend on

PREPARATION • PREVENTION • PRACTICE

Our Home is *Fire Safe!*

The student named below has successfully completed the Fire Safety Home Survey exercises with their family, and their home is now a certified "Fire Safety Zone". Please hang this proudly in your home to remind you to always maintain your fire safety plan.



Student's Name _____

*I promise to be aware of fire safety and to practice fire safety at all times.*_____
Student Signature_____
Parent or Guardian Signature_____
Teacher Signature

- I have performed the Fire Safety exercises with my family and I will save and display this certificate in my home.
- I know to call 911 in an event of a fire.
- Our family has a fire escape plan, our home has smoke alarms and we pledge to maintain them on a regular schedule.
- I will not play with matches or lighters.
- My family and I have inspected our home, including our basement, attic and garage and certify that we have not identified potential fire risks.



Ascension



Poster Contest Entry Coupon

Only students in preK-12th grade are eligible to enter

Student's name _____
 School _____
 Teacher's name _____
 Teacher's email _____
 Grade _____
 School phone _____
 School address _____
 City, State, Zip _____

Please mail entries to:
**Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin
 Charitable Foundation**
 321 E. Main Street, Suite 200, Madison, WI 53703

Fire Safety Quiz Answers

Burns and How to Prevent Them

1. A scald burn occurs when skin contacts **hot liquid, food, or steam**
2. **Scald** and **contact** burn injuries most often occur in the home, the kitchen and bathroom, especially.
3. What should you wear on your hands when taking food out of the microwave?
a. Oven mitts and hot pads

Fire Pit and Campfire Safety

4. How far away should you stand from a fire pit?
d. 3 feet
5. What materials are safe to use to put out a fire?
d. All of the above
6. Ice is NOT safe to put on a burn.
TRUE

I Spy...

7. Which of the following are flammable?
d. All of the above

8. NEVER throw **WATER** on a frying pan that has caught fire.

Protect Your Family at Home

9. Cooking fires are the leading cause of fires in homes. **TRUE**
10. What are a few things that can cause fires in a living room or bedroom? (Circle all that apply)
A candle, Frayed electrical cord, Overloaded outlets, Space heaters

Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

11. List 3 places lithium-ion batteries are found:
Any of the following: smart phones, laptops, e-scooters, e-bikes, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys, cars
12. What are 3 signs that there is a problem with a battery?
Any of the following: odor, change in color, too much heat, change of shape, leaking, odd noises
13. It is dangerous to charge a device under your **pillow**, on your **bed**, or on a **couch**.
14. How should you dispose of a battery?
b. Recycle them

Fire Sprinklers

15. **Heat** is more threatening than flames
16. Only the fire sprinkler closest to the fire will go off. **TRUE**
17. You are _____ % more likely to survive a fire with smoke alarms and fire sprinklers.
b. 82%

Do You Know How a Fire Sprinkler Works?

18. Fire sprinklers all go off at once.
FALSE
19. The sprinkler will put the fire **out** or keep it **small** until firefighters arrive
20. How quickly can a small flame grow into a major fire?
c. Less than 2 minutes
21. A fire in a home without sprinklers can cause ...
d. All of the above

Energy Safety

22. What does natural gas smell like?
b. Rotten eggs
23. What should you NEVER do near power lines
Climb trees or fly kites
24. Electricity + **water** = DANGER

30th Annual

Summer Camp for Burn Injured Youth

August 11-17, 2024

For the past 29 years, the Professional Fire Fighters Foundation of Wisconsin Charitable Foundation has hosted our annual Summer Camp for Burn Injured Youth, or "Burn Camp" for short. Burn Camp is a free, week-long overnight summer camp opportunity for survivors ages 7-21 with life-changing burn injuries to continue to heal from the emotional trauma of their burns, grow their lifelong support system, and just be a kid.

Each year, our Burn Camp Steering Committee works year-round to plan Burn Camp around a theme that makes each child's experience fresh, unique, and more impactful. This year's theme was "Be a Start in Life," and we believe it is a perfect reflection of the spirit of our community. The camp activities focused on empowering burn survivors to overcome obstacles in their lives and achieve more than they ever thought

possible. The week included traditional camp activities, as well as Hollywood-themed activities like attending a comedy show, red carpet dance, and more. The hard work and participation of nearly 100 burn survivors and volunteers makes camp special for everyone who attends.

We need your help to spread the word about Burn Camp so we can support more burn survivors who may not know about camp!

Our 30th annual Summer Camp for Burn Injured Youth will be held at Camp Timber-lee, just outside of East Troy, WI, from August 10th-17th, 2024. Please contact us for more information or to refer a burn survivor: (608) 630-8440 or katie@pffwcf.org.

More information at www.pffwcf.org/BurnSurvivorSupport



This program is recommended by the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services to comply with s. 101.14(1)(c) Wis. Stats, regarding a form of a course of study in fire prevention for use in public schools.

Newspaper in Education salutes the contributions of our sponsors!

This educational supplement is designed to provide the public with general information on fire safety. The Fire Fighters Foundation, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, and sponsors of this section assume no liability for any actions taken by persons based on the information contained herein.

NIE Supervisor:
Mark Missurelli



CONNECT WITH US!

The Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin Charitable Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity. We are champions for burn survivors, fire fighters, and safe communities statewide. For 25 years, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel has been a partner on this award winning program that saves lives through fire-safety education. The fun and engaging content within these pages teaches students about fire and burn prevention, gas and electrical safety, and risk reduction in their homes. Please share with us how you are using our Fire Safety Newspapers in Education program at home, at your school, and in your community.

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#PFFWCFBurnCamp • #PFFWCF #FireSafeBurnFreeWI

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