

Manufactured Home Fire Safety

Fires in manufactured homes claim the lives of 500 Americans each year and injure 1,000 more. Many of these fires are caused by heating and electrical system malfunctions and improper storage of combustibles.

Safety Precautions

- ◆ Have a minimum of two smoke alarms installed in your home regardless of sleeping space arrangements.
- ◆ Install smoke alarms in accordance with smoke alarm manufacturer guidelines. Test your smoke alarms once a month and replace the batteries twice a year.
- ◆ Maintain your home heating system by having it serviced at least once a year by a professional.
- ◆ Do not store combustibles or flammables near heat sources.
- ◆ Never overload outlets, extension cords or electrical circuits. If the circuit breaker trips or fuses blow, immediately call a licensed electrician to check your system.
- ◆ Have an escape plan and practice escape routes with your family.
- ◆ Space heaters need their space. Do not place portable space heaters close to drapes, clothing or other combustible materials.
- ◆ Install skirting material to keep leaves and other debris and combustible items from blowing under your manufactured home.
- ◆ When considering a new home, ask if residential sprinklers are available as an option.
- ◆ Create a defensible space perimeter by thinning trees and brush within 30 feet around your home.
- ◆ Beyond 30 feet, remove dead wood, debris and low tree branches.
- ◆ Provide at least a 10 to 15 foot separation between islands of shrubs and plant groups to effectively break-up continuity of vegetation.
- ◆ If there is a fire – get out immediately, go to a neighbor's and notify the fire department by dialing 9-1-1.

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