

## FIRE SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR FAMILY

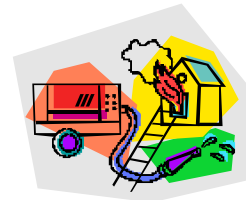
### SMOKE ALARMS – DON'T STAY HOME WITHOUT ONE!

- ▶ Most fatal home fires occur at night, while people are sleeping.
- ▶ A working smoke alarm can double your chances of surviving a fire.
- ▶ Battery operated alarms can cost less than \$10.
- ▶ Where else can you get such valuable protection for so little money?
- ▶ **CHANGE THE BATTERY** on your smoke alarm at least **ONCE A YEAR** if you have a standard battery. **Do not change the battery if you have a lithium battery.** The alarm will let out a periodic “chirping” sound when it needs a new battery.
- ▶ Smoke alarms are **NOT** recommended for kitchens, bathrooms or garages where fumes, steam or exhaust could set off false alarms.
- ▶ **AT A MINIMUM, INSTALL ONE SMOKE ALARM OUTSIDE EACH SLEEPING AREA, INSIDE EACH SLEEPING AREA, AND ON EVERY LEVEL OF YOUR HOME.**
- ▶ Dallas Fire-Rescue offers free smoke alarms to residents living in the city limits of Dallas. Contact our communications center by dialing 3-1-1.



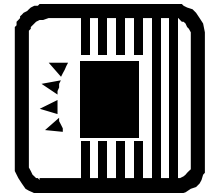
### HAVE AN ESCAPE PLAN FOR YOUR FAMILY

- ▶ Drawing an escape plan can be a fun family activity that may save the life of a loved one.
- ▶ Sit down with your family and discuss how each member will exit the home in case of a fire.
- ▶ Designate a meeting place outside of the house, such as a tree or a light pole.
- ▶ **DO NOT GO BACK INSIDE.** Call 9-1-1 from a neighbor's house.
- ▶ Most importantly, **PRACTICE YOUR ESCAPE PLAN.** By doing so, you may discover flaws in your plan or find a better way to escape.



### BURGLAR BARS MAY TRAP YOUR FAMILY DURING A FIRE

- ▶ During a fire, you and your family may become trapped if you are not able to open the burglar bars. The bars will also make it difficult for Firefighters to make entry.
- ▶ If your burglar bars are not equipped with a safety latch that allows you to open the bars from the inside and **WITHOUT A KEY**, consider replacing them.
- ▶ Remember, your life is worth more than the cost of replacing the bars.



A final word: Dallas Fire-Rescue responds to over 1,800 structure fires a year, the majority occurring in residential homes just like yours. **DON'T ASSUME THAT IT WILL NEVER HAPPEN TO YOU!** Protect your family by taking the necessary precautions.