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### FIRE SAFETY

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## HOME FIRE PREVENTION

# LEARN ABOUT FIRE SAFETY AND PLAN AHEAD FOR FIRE EMERGENCIES.

Some basic fire prevention tips for your home:

- Regularly inspect your house for fire hazards.
- Throw out trash and other combustibles that could feed a fire.
- Follow portable heater instructions. Place the heater where it won't ignite combustibles or be tipped over.
- Check your heating system before use. Screen fireplaces and keep chimneys and flues free of obstruction and creosote buildup.
- Smoking is the number one cause of fatal home fires. Never smoke in bed or when drowsy.
- Never leave candles burning unattended.
- Do not use extension cords as "permanent" wiring.
- Keep all lighters and matches out of children's reach.
- Keep high-intensity halogen lamps away from combustible materials.
- Clean the lint trap on your clothes dryer frequently.

### PREPARE

- Purchase multi-purpose, 10-pound dry chemical fire extinguishers labeled ABC, which put out most types of fires — wood, paper, cloth, flammable liquid, or electrical fires.
- Place extinguishers in the kitchen, outside bedrooms, living areas, basement, and garage.
- Buy a smoke detector for each level of your home, and place one outside each bedroom and in stairways. Test detectors bimonthly and change the battery at least once a year.

#### PLANNING YOUR ESCAPE

- Develop and practice a home fire escape plan with two ways out of each room and select a meeting place outside to meet.
- Teach children how to call for help from a trusted neighbor's home and to never reenter a burning building.
- Practice the plan with your family and do fire drills.