

Home Fire and Life Safety Checklist

Fire Safety

- Install and maintain smoke alarms in all sleeping rooms and outside all sleeping areas on every floor (we will install them for you if you require assistance)
- Test your smoke alarms monthly
- Change smoke alarm batteries at least annually
- Replace smoke alarms after ten years in use
- Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach
- Install a fire extinguisher (we can teach you how to use it)
- Never smoke in bed
- Don't discard ashtray or fireplace ashes with combustible trash
- Never leave food cooking unattended
- Have your chimney cleaned or inspected regularly
- Keep combustible material at least 3 feet from heating appliances
- Don't use extension cords in lieu of permanent wiring
- Install an Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter (AFCI) device where appropriate (consult an electrician)

Life Safety

- Develop and practice your home escape plan (we can help you with this) or visit our website at www.riversidefire.org click on: "education"
- Don't use gas grills or stoves for heating your home
- Install and maintain a carbon monoxide alarm (we will install it for you)
- Keep egress routes free of storage items
- Do not store heavy items higher than 6 feet
- Make sure house numbers are clearly visible and legible (6 inch characters)
- Ensure all electrical appliances are listed and approved
- Install Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) receptacle where appropriate (consult an electrician)
- Keep poisonous chemicals out of children's reach

Armed with this checklist, you and your family can conduct a home fire and life safety inspection. I promise that if you carefully implement the above bulleted list, you will sleep better each night and make your firefighter's jobs easier.