Be FIRE SMART, Don’t Let It Start!

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South Dakota Office of Emergency Management
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Be FIRE SMART, DON'T LET IT START!

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"Hi, kids. I'm Tommy the turtle and...

...this is my friend, Marshal the Fire Dog."
"Hi, Tommy."

"Hi, Marshal. We are on our way to a family cookout."
Tommy says, "That sounds like fun, but be careful around the fire."

"We will."

"Marshal can tell you some very important things about fire safety."

"We always try to be safe."
Marshal says, “Fire can be so much fun to be around, if used properly.”
Campfires,
...fires in a fireplace,

...and candles are just a few ways we can enjoy fire.

Even planned forest fires help with the growth of trees and vegetation."

“Really?” the kids ask.
"However, we must always be aware that fire can be very dangerous."
1 MOST COMMON CAUSES OF FIRE
IN THE HOME AND OUTSIDE
Some Reasons for HOME FIRES

Lighters, matches, ...

...bad extension cords, space heaters, cooking, and home appliances are some main causes for home fires.

– NEVER PLAY WITH MATCHES OR LIGHTERS –
Clothing or blankets next to a fireplace can be very dangerous fire hazards.
It is not safe to have clothing too close to small heaters.
Marshal says, “If you see a FIRE, tell an adult.”
Tommy says, "There are many causes for fires outside the home.

Campfires and matches are responsible for a lot of fires outside the home. Make sure fires are completely out before leaving."
Burning trash can also become unsafe.

Never leave a burning barrel unattended.
How to Prevent SMALL STORAGE FIRES

"Oily rags, barbeque grills, charcoal, flammable liquids, and old papers and magazines can definitely be fire hazards."

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“All of these items should be stored in a COOL, DRY PLACE.”

OILY RAGS
Store in a safe, recommended container

NEWSPAPERS and MAGAZINES
Store at least three feet away from ignition sources

FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS
Store in a safe, recommended container
How to Keep You and Your Family FIRE SAFE!

Marshal says, "It is very important that you and your family have certain fire safety items in your home."
SMOKE ALARMS
Should be placed on ceilings or high on the wall on each level in your home in all sleeping areas

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
Should be placed where they can be easily reached

"Also, a carbon monoxide detector is important to have in your home."
“Every family must have a FIRE ESCAPE PLAN for their home.”
“If you live in a two-story home, you may want an escape ladder that can be used to leave the house quickly through a window.”

Make sure you know how to open your bedroom windows.

An escape ladder folds up to keep ready by your window.
– DON’T MOVE IT –
ALWAYS BE PREPARED

- Make Sure Smoke Alarms are Checked Regularly and Have New Batteries
- Have a Working Fire Extinguisher
- Practice Escape Route Often
- Have a Place Where You and Your Family Will Meet
3 WHAT YOU DO TO STAY SAFE DURING A FIRE

SMOKE ALARM

Beep Beep Beep

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Marshal says, "If a smoke alarm sounds, prepare to leave your house immediately and make sure everyone is aware of the emergency."

FOLLOW THE FAMILY FIRE ESCAPE PLAN
“If there is smoke in the house,

CRAWL ON THE FLOOR...

UNDER THE SMOKE...

to the door.”
“If the doorknob is **HOT**, do not open the door.”

“FIND ANOTHER WAY OUT.”
“If an article of your clothing catches on fire,

STOP,

DROP,

and ROLL,

to put the fire out.”
“Do not call 911 from inside the house. Wait until you get outside to call 911.”
“Call 911 after safely outside.”
“When in school, follow the teacher’s instructions during a fire drill.”
AFTER A FIRE...

Do not go back into your house until the fire department says it is ALL CLEAR!
Tommy says, "I hope you kids learned a lot about fire safety from Marshal."

"We sure did! Thank you, Marshal."

"You are welcome," Marshal responds.

"Great," Tommy replies. "Now go enjoy the cookout, and be fire safe."
“Let’s review the 4 important things you and your family should do to prevent a fire.”

**KEEP SAFE!**

1. Be aware of what causes fires and fire hazards. Know the reasons for accidental fires in the home and outside.

2. Know how to keep your home fire safe.

3. Know what you should do to stay safe during a fire.

4. Know what you should do after the fire.
Have a fire safety plan. Always be prepared. Make sure your smoke alarms are tested and have a working fire extinguisher.

Before a fire happens, you and your family should have a family escape plan.

- Understand what you should do, where you should meet, and how to keep in contact with each other. Practice your fire escape plan twice a year.
- You should also discuss all situations where fires can start in your home or outside. Go over the plan with your family.

Keep your family prepared and safe for all possible fires.
Keeping Safe During a Fire:

1. In a smoke-filled room, stay close to the floor. Crawl under the smoke.

2. If an article of clothing catches on fire, STOP, DROP and ROLL to put it out.

3. If the door knob is hot, do not open the door. Find another way out.

4. Wait until you are outside to call 911.
“Marshal the Fire Dog and I want you and your family to be fire safe. It is important that you are always prepared for an unexpected fire. Fires can start very quickly and spread very fast.”

BE FIRE SMART, DON'T LET IT START

“Whether it is a fire, tornado, flood, or blizzard, you should always be prepared.”

Your Friends,
Marshal the Fire Dog
Tommy the Turtle
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