



## MEDFORD FIRE-RESCUE FIRE & LIFE SAFETY DIVISION

[www.medfordfirerescue.org](http://www.medfordfirerescue.org)

**"SERVE AND PRESERVE"**

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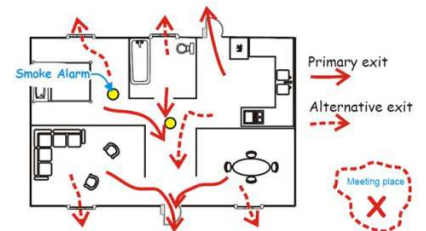
### Fire Prevention Week: October 8 - 14, 2017

### This Year's Theme: "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!"

Residential fires continue to plague the United States. Annually there are nearly 360,000 home fires in the United States, killing more than 2,500 people, injuring 12,300 people, and causing \$6.7 billion in direct property damage. In 2016, Medford experienced 72 residential fires, accounting for one civilian death, 16 civilian injuries, and causing over \$1.5 million in property losses. Home fires develop very fast because of the highly flammable materials modern furnishings are composed of. You have only a few minutes to evacuate your home before conditions become unsurvivable. Family pre-fire evacuation planning and fire prevention measures are essential components to increasing your family's chance of survival. Consider taking the following actions to protect your family from fire:

#### Have a Family Home Evacuation Plan and Practice Evacuation Drills

- Draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Make sure windows used as secondary escape exits open easily and are clear from obstructions.
- Practice with your family twice a year using different scenarios, teaching them to stay low near the floor to avoid smoke and heat, how to determine which escape route to take by touching the door, to meet at the outside predetermined safe meeting area, and to never reenter a burning or smoke filled building.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- For more information, visit: <http://www.ci.medford.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=609>



#### Reduce Fire Hazards in your Home

- Fact: Preventing fires is one of the best ways to protect your family. Most fires can be prevented.
- For more information, visit: <http://www.ci.medford.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=250>

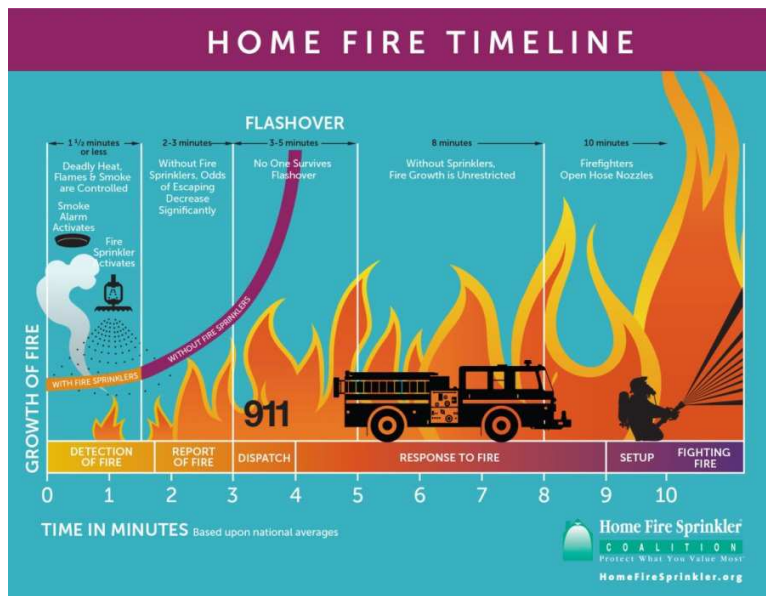
## Maintain Properly Placed and Functioning Smoke Alarms in your Home

- Facts:
  - 57% of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no working smoke alarms.
  - The risk of dying in a home structure fire is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms.
- It is recommended that smoke alarms be installed in every bedroom, outside of bedroom areas close enough to be heard through closed doors, and on each story of the home.
- Smoke alarms should be tested monthly.
- Voice recorded smoke alarms are more effective at waking children up.
- For more information, visit: <http://www.ci.medford.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=2296>



## Consider Installing a Residential Fire Sprinkler System in your Home

- This is the best fire protection system you can have in your home. It's like having a firefighter standby 24/7 ready to extinguish a fire before conditions in your home become life-threatening.
- While smoke alarms are necessary and save lives, forty-two percent of home fire deaths resulted from fires with operating smoke alarms (2011-2015).
- For more information, visit: <http://www.ci.medford.or.us/page.asp?navid=663>
- Watch Medford's fire sprinkler/flashover demonstrations at:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUEKfJ0HULU>
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Yf7bhQzSV4>
  - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZM5zO3L76QU>



Source: <http://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/News-and-Research/Fire-statistics/Occupancies/oshomes.pdf>