



## Fire Safety Tips II

### **Getting out and staying alive in the event of a fire**

Practice your home fire escape plan at least twice a year. Everyone should practice the home fire escape plan at all times of the day and night. If the smoke alarm sounds in your home everyone will know how to get out and meet at the outside meeting place. Choose a spot in front of your home where the fire department will see you when they arrive. Never go back into the burning building to attempt to rescue people, pets or possessions. Firefighters are trained.

Plan your escape:

- Draw a floor plan of your home or apartment building. Show at least two ways out of each room. Discuss escape routes with everyone in your home. Know where all exits are located in the building or home.
- Agree on a meeting place outside where everyone will gather once you've escaped.
- Make sure that everyone can clearly hear and recognize the sound of all smoke alarms at all times.
- Teach everyone in your household how to unlock and open all windows and doors.
- Keep stairways and exits clear and free from clutter.

**If you're caught in a fire situation, survival is your top priority. You should:**

### ***Feel the door handle***

- If the door handle is hot, don't open it
- Go to a window and call for help
- If the handle is not hot, open the door cautiously

### ***Get out of the building before phoning for help***

- Don't take the time to phone before leaving
- Get out and find a phone

***Pull the fire alarm on your way out if your building or home has one***

### ***Don't look for other people and don't gather up your stuff***

- Knock on all doors as you leave
- Yell "FIRE!" as you leave
- Don't hesitate or stray from your path as you leave

### ***Crawl low to the floor***

- Thick smoke can make it impossible to see
- Toxic chemicals from smoke can be deadly in minutes

### ***Close the door behind you***

- You may help keep the fire from spreading
- You may protect your possessions from the fire and smoke damage