



# BREWSTER FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

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## HOME FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION CHECKLIST

A fire can occur in any part of your home. Use this checklist to perform a safety check of your home, and work to correct any items noted

### HOME EXTERIOR

- Ensure house number is visible from street
- Have trees trimmed away from electrical lines
- Keep barbeque grills away from the house when in use
- Always empty charcoal ashes into metal container
- Keep furnace vents clear of obstructions and snow

### FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- Limit the amount of chemicals stored in your home
- Dispose of and recycle hazardous materials properly
- Store chemicals in original containers, clearly marked
- Store hazardous materials away from heat sources
- Allow proper ventilation when using chemicals indoors
- Oil or chemical soaked rags stored in metal container  
With a tight fitting lid to prevent spontaneous ignition

### FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

- Purchase multi-purpose (ABC) fire extinguishers
- Keep fire extinguishers in the kitchen, basement, and/or garage area of your home
- Teach family members to properly use fire extinguishers (P.A.S.S.—**P**ull the pin, **A**im, **S**queeze handle, **S**weep side to side at base of fire)
- Inspect fire extinguishers annually

### HEATING EQUIPMENT & FIREPLACE

- Avoid using space heaters if possible
- Replace furnace filters once a year
- Clean lint from behind and under clothes dryer
- Install a spark screen in front of fireplaces
- Have chimneys cleaned/inspected annually
- Dispose of ashes in a metal container outdoors
- Keep clutter away from heating appliances

### DEVELOP & PRACTICE A HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

- Develop a home escape plan that includes:
  - **Crawl low under smoke, practice Two ways out, and plan a meeting place outside**
  - **Don't hesitate, move quickly, fire moves fast and there isn't time to try to save pets**
  - **Once outside, STAY outside**
  - **Teach all family members how to dial 911 in an emergency**

### COOKING

- Never leave cooking unattended
- Turn pot handles inward to avoid burn injuries
- Never store combustibles in oven or stove top
- Roll up sleeves while using the stove or oven

### ELECTRICAL

- Avoid overloading electrical circuits
- Inspect electrical cords & appliances for damage
- Do not tack cords to wall, or run under rugs
- Avoid using extension cords, have more outlets installed by a professional electrician
- Install GFCI outlets in potentially damp locations

### SMOKE & CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

- Install smoke alarms in and outside bedrooms, and on every level of your home
- Install a Carbon Monoxide (CO) alarm on each level of your home
- Test smoke and CO alarms each month
- Change your clocks, change alarm batteries
- Replace smoke and CO alarms every ten years

### SMOKING MATERIALS & CANDLES

- Keep matches & lighters out of reach of children
- Never leave cigarettes or candles unattended
- Empty ashtrays into non-combustible containers
- NEVER** smoke in bed
- Place candles in a sturdy holder, preferably one that protects the flame