

FACT SHEET: FIRE

CREATE AND PRACTICE A FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

PREPARE

Create a fire escape plan. This plan includes:

- Floor plan of rooms with doors and windows identified in each room.
- Two ways to get out of each room (via door or window) in case primary way is blocked. Collapsible ladders for any upper story windows should be considered.
- A place where family members will meet after they exit.

Inspect and know how to use a fire extinguisher.

Install smoke alarms on every level of home.

- Test alarms monthly
- Replace batteries at least once a year (except for 10-year lithium battery powered alarms)
- Replace alarm every 8-10 years, according to manufacturer instructions.

Practice your fire escape plan while crawling with your eyes closed so you know you can do it in heavy smoke.

DURING

If your clothes catch fire: STOP, DROP & ROLL.

If you are indoors:

- Think of your escape route - crawl on the floor to the exit.
- Check doors before you open them - use the back of your hand to check if the door is hot. If it is, find alternate route. If it is cool, open door cautiously and close it behind you - closed doors slow the spread of fire.
- Call 9-1-1 once you escape.
- Go to your pre-designated meeting place.
- Do not reenter the building.

If you are outdoors:

- Stay outdoors.
- Stay clear as emergency personnel arrive.

AFTER

- Find a place to stay - Red Cross shelter, hotel/motel, or relative or friend's house
- Call your home/renter's insurance carrier
- Separate damaged property from undamaged property when safe to return

REMEMBER

It may seem silly to practice your escape plan, but it takes only a matter of minutes for a house to become fully engulfed.

Keep a digital file of important documents and records.

For more information, contact County of San Luis Obispo Office of Emergency Services

Phone Number: (805) 781-5011

Website: www.ReadySLO.org

Twitter Handle: @slocountyoes

Facebook page: facebook.com/slocountyoes

