

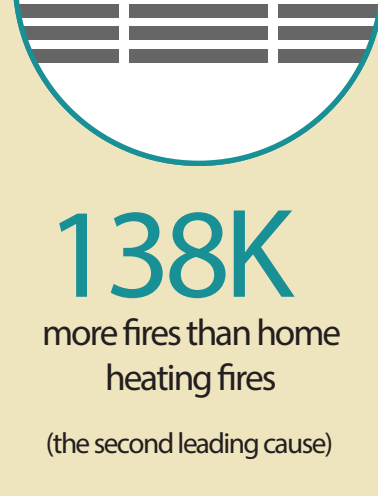
FIRE SAFETY

HOW TO KEEP YOUR HOME AND LOVED ONES SAFE

Your home is somewhere you expect to feel safe. Yet more injuries and deaths from fire occur in the home than in any other place. Don't underestimate the danger of fire. This infographic will help you to be prepared and learn what to do if a fire breaks out in your home.

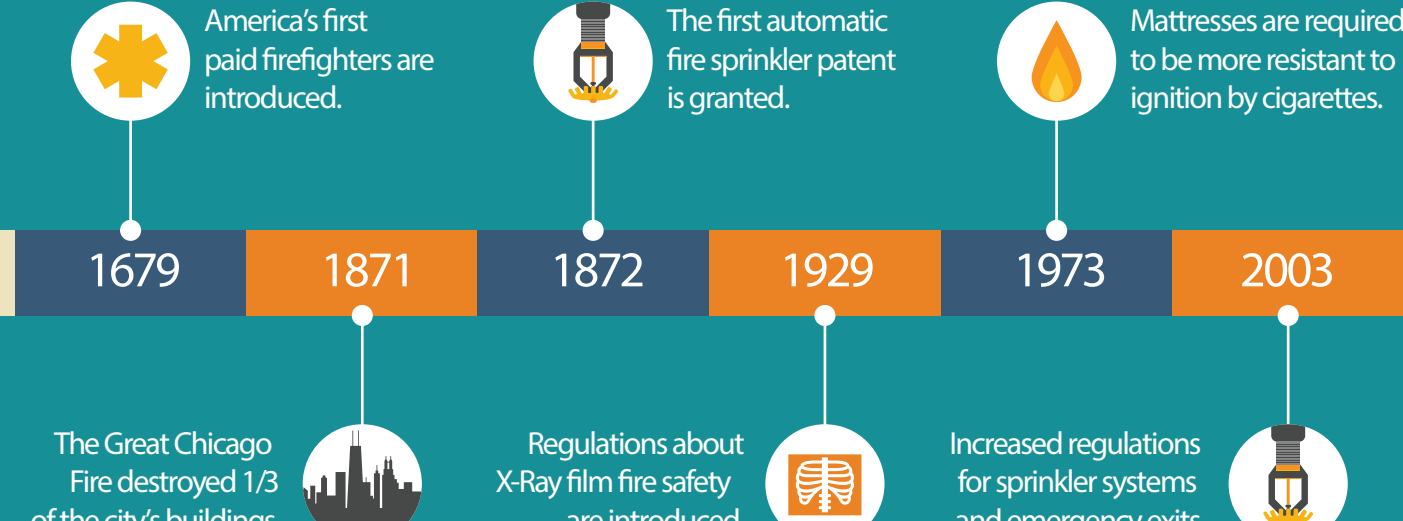


that's...



The U.S. Fire Administration reported that aging adults are at a greater risk of fire death than the general public*.

TIMELINE OF FIRE SAFETY LAWS IN THE USA



DEALING WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF HOME FIRES

Cooking Fires

- Make sure burners or ovens are not left on after cooking
- Never leave the stove unattended, and keep the area free of grease and spills that could catch on fire
- If you're using an electric stove, use a burner that is the right size for the pan
- If you're using a gas stove, keep the flame under the pan

Electrical Fires

- Hire a qualified, licensed electrician to inspect your home and make any necessary repairs
- Replace fuses or circuit breakers with the correct size
- Discard frayed or broken cords
- Don't run cords under carpeting, bedding or other combustible materials, or across frequently traveled areas

Furniture Fires

- Keep smoking materials or candles away from furniture
- Choose products that are made under the Upholstered Furniture Action Council Program
- If you smoke, use deep ashtrays and don't rest them on furniture
- Keep candles away from upholstered furniture, draperies, mattresses and lamp shades

Home Heating Fires

- Allow 3 feet of space on all sides of heat sources
- Clean your fireplace regularly. Never allow more than one inch of buildup of soot or ash
- Have your chimney inspected every year, even if you have a gas fireplace
- If you're using a portable heater, choose a model with a 'tip switch' that will automatically shut off if it tips over

Candle Fires

- Never fall asleep while candles are burning
- Place candles on stable furniture, out of children's reach
- Trim candle wicks to 1/4 inch before lighting and use non-combustible holders to catch wax drippings
- Keep candles away from holiday decorations, papers, books, curtains, flammable liquids, clothing and bedding

Seasonal Fires

- Cook with care. Stay in the kitchen while cooking
- Pay attention to indoor decorations and replace any faulty products before use
- Don't use outdoor-use products in the house
- Use outdoor lights responsibly. Keep cords and lights away from snow or standing water to avoid damage

Smoking Fires

- Consider refraining from smoking in your home
- Never smoke in bed, when you're sleepy or when you have used medication or alcohol that could make you drowsy
- Extinguish smoking materials thoroughly to prevent cigarette butts and ashes from igniting other materials
- Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach

Wildfires

- Get rid of combustible materials such as leaves
- Cut down tree limbs that are 15 ft or closer to the ground within 30 ft of your home
- Remove vines or vegetation growing into your house
- Use gravel pathways or driveways to create 'fuel breaks' across your property

TOP TIPS FOR PREVENTING HOME FIRES

Fire Extinguishers

- Keep fire extinguishers in the kitchen, where it will most likely be needed
- Consider buying a fire extinguisher blanket
- Have your extinguishers inspected annually
- Make sure you know how to properly use the fire extinguisher

Home Sprinkler Systems

- If you're building a new home, consider adding sprinklers, especially in areas such as the kitchen
- Modern sprinklers are designed to go off only in the area where there is a fire
- 90% of fires are contained by just one sprinkler
- Ensure sprinkler systems are properly maintained

Smoke Alarms

- Ensure they are installed outside every bedroom, on every floor and in the basement
- Test smoke alarms every month
- Replace the batteries every six months
- Replace smoke alarms every 10 years

Create an Escape Plan

- Have two ways to get out of every room
- Establish a meeting place outside of your home
- Put the plan in writing and share it with anyone who will be staying at your home
- Make sure that anyone who is unable to move well is looked after in the event of a home fire

Sources:

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*2021 statistics



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