

# Fire safety in manufactured homes



To increase fire safety in manufactured homes, NFPA offers the following guidelines:

- **Keep smoke alarms working**

Never remove or disable a smoke alarm. If you experience frequent nuisance alarms, consider relocating the alarm further away from kitchen cooking fumes or bathroom steam. Replace batteries when you change your clocks for daylight savings, and when the alarm "chirps," signaling low battery power.

- **Make sure you have enough smoke alarms**

If your older manufactured home does not have smoke alarms in or near every sleeping room and in or near the family/living area(s), immediately install new alarms and fresh batteries to protect these rooms.

- **Plan your escape**

Know ahead of time how you will get out if you have a fire. Develop an escape plan which includes having an alternate exit out of every room. Hold a fire drill twice a year to rehearse how you will react if the smoke alarm sounds.

- **Electrical**

Hire a licensed electrician if you notice flickering lights, frequent blown circuits, or a "hot" smell when using electricity. Use extension cords for temporary convenience, not as a permanent solution. Avoid overloading electrical receptacles (outlets). Electrical cords should not be run under carpets or rugs, as the wires can be damaged by foot traffic, then overheat and ignite the carpet or rug over them.

- **Cooking**

Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires in U.S. homes. Supervise older children who cook and stay in the kitchen when heating anything on the stove. Heat oil slowly and know how to slide a lid over a pan if you experience a grease fire. Read more cooking safety tips.

- **Heating**

Keep space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn. When purchasing new space heaters, select appliances with automatic shut-off switches. Supervise children and pets when space heaters are operating. Read more heating safety tips.

- **Smoking**

If you have smokers in your home, ask them to smoke outside. Wherever people smoke, set out large, non-tip ashtrays on level surfaces and empty them frequently. Thoroughly douse butts with water before discarding.

Federal Heights Fire Department

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