

Fire Safety & Prevention in our Community

What every family needs to know...



Windsor Fire & Rescue Services

“It won’t happen to me!”



1 in 10 Canadians will experience a fire in their home



48% of Canadians believe they have almost no chance of having a fire

**NATIONAL STUDY
Commissioned by Duracell & Canadian Assoc.
of Fire Chiefs**

Windsor Fire & Rescue Services www.windsorfire.com



What's Our Fire Risk?

Where are we at greatest risk from fire?

- 84% of fire fatalities in Ontario occur in the **home**
- Approx. **460 people are injured** in home fires each year in Ontario
- Approx. **100 people die** in fires each year in Ontario
- **Everyone** has a stake in fire safety



What causes fires in our homes?

Leading causes of home fires in Ontario:

1. **Cooking**
2. Heating / Cooling
3. Electrical
4. Cigarettes
5. Appliances

PREVENTION!



What are the most deadly fires?

Leading causes of ***fatal home fires*** in Ontario:

1. **Cigarettes** – 30% of fatal fires
2. **Arson** – 20% of fatal fires
3. **Cooking** – 18% of fatal fires
4. **Matches / Lighters** – 12% of fatal fires
5. **Candles / Electrical Wiring** – 5 % of fatal fires

***95% of fatal structure fires
occur in the home!***



Cooking-related fires

- ✓ 1 in 4 preventable home fires
- ✓ Leading cause of fire injuries
- ✓ Second leading cause of fatal fires
- ✓ Cost Ontarians an estimated \$54 million/year in injuries, deaths and property loss



Cooking-related fires in Windsor

- ✓ 171 cooking-related fires in 2008
- ✓ \$436,700 losses in 2008
- ✓ Leading cause of cooking-related fires in Windsor – **unattended cooking**
- ✓ 1 in 10 reported



Cooking-related fires



- ✓ unattended cooking → 69% of fires
- ✓ “distraction/forgot” → leading behaviour when fire started
- ✓ oil and grease → objects first ignited in half of the fires
- ✓ higher incidence of injuries when the occupant attempted to extinguish the fire



Do you know what to do....?

- ✓ Clothing catching fire
- ✓ Pot on the stove fire
- ✓ Fire in the oven
- ✓ Fire in the microwave
- ✓ Safe cooking practices



*If in doubt...**JUST GET OUT!***



Chemistry of Fire

Heat + Fuel + Oxygen =

FIRE

Break the chemical chain = ***FIRE OUT!***



Remember to...
STOP, DROP & ROLL
if your clothing catches fire

OR

smother the fire with a towel or
blanket...

Cool a ***burn*** with ***cool water***



Pot on the Stove Fire

- ✓ Never leave oil or grease unattended
- ✓ Never put water on a grease or oil fire

*** PUT A LID ON IT ***

TURN OFF THE HEAT

DO NOT MOVE THE PAN OR REMOVE THE LID UNTIL COMPLETELY COOLED

- ✓ Never move a burning pot to the sink or outside

**** Wear oven mitts ****



If in doubt...JUST GET OUT!

Fire in the Oven

- ✓ Keep the oven door closed
- ✓ Turn off the heat
- ✓ Don't open the door until the fire is completely out
- ✓ Call 911, if necessary
- ✓ Have the oven checked and/or serviced before being used again



*If in doubt...**JUST GET OUT!***



Fire in the Microwave

- ✓ Keep the microwave oven door closed
- ✓ Turn off the microwave immediately
- ✓ Unplug it, if safe to do so
- ✓ Never open the door until the fire is completely out
- ✓ Call 911, if necessary
- ✓ Have the oven checked and/or serviced before being used again



*If in doubt...**JUST GET OUT!***



Watch What You Heat!

If you are **frying**, **grilling** or **broiling** food (fast cooking – high heat):

- ✓ Stay in the **kitchen**
- ✓ If you have to leave the kitchen, even for a short period of time – turn off the stove



Watch What You Heat!

If you are **simmering, baking, roasting** or **boiling** food (slow cooking – low heat):

- ✓ Stay in the **home**
- ✓ Use a timer to remind you that you're cooking



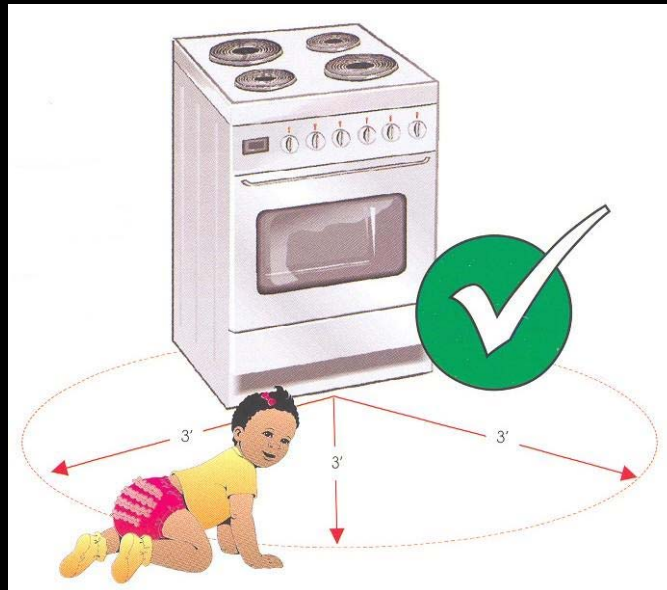
Safe Cooking Practices

- ✓ Stay alert – don't cook when drowsy or impaired
- ✓ Keep stovetop, burners and oven clean
- ✓ Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking
- ✓ Keep anything that can catch fire away from the stovetop – 1 metre safety zone



Safe Cooking Practices

- ✓ Keep pets off cooking surfaces and nearby countertops
- ✓ Keep young children away from the cooking area – enforce a 1 metre “**kid free zone**”
- ✓ Eliminate tripping hazards
- ✓ Use the stove’s back burners whenever possible



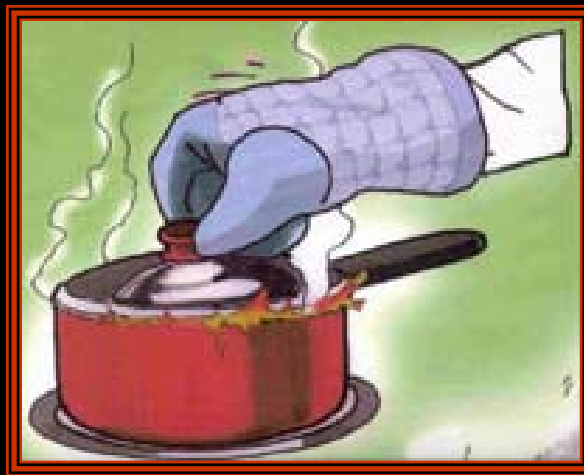
Safe Cooking Practices

- ✓ Turn pot handles inward – ensure pot handles do not stick out from the front of the stove
- ✓ Never use dishcloths or tea towels in place of proper fitting oven mitts
- ✓ Never use wet oven mitts or potholders as they can cause scalding burns
- ✓ Never use the oven or range to heat your home



Safe Cooking Practices

- ✓ Don't store children's treats, candies or cookies above the stove
- ✓ Have an appropriate sized pot lid and oven mitts readily on hand
- ✓ Keep all appliance cords coiled up and away from counter edges
- ✓ Unplug small appliances when not in use



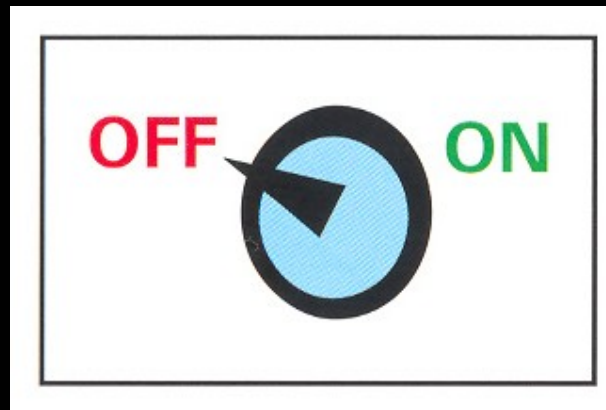
Safe Cooking Practices

- ✓ Check appliance cords for breaks, splits or cracked insulation and replace if necessary
- ✓ Don't overload electrical outlets or use extension cords – use a power bar if necessary
- ✓ Never hold a child while cooking or when drinking or carrying hot foods or liquids



Safe Cooking Practices

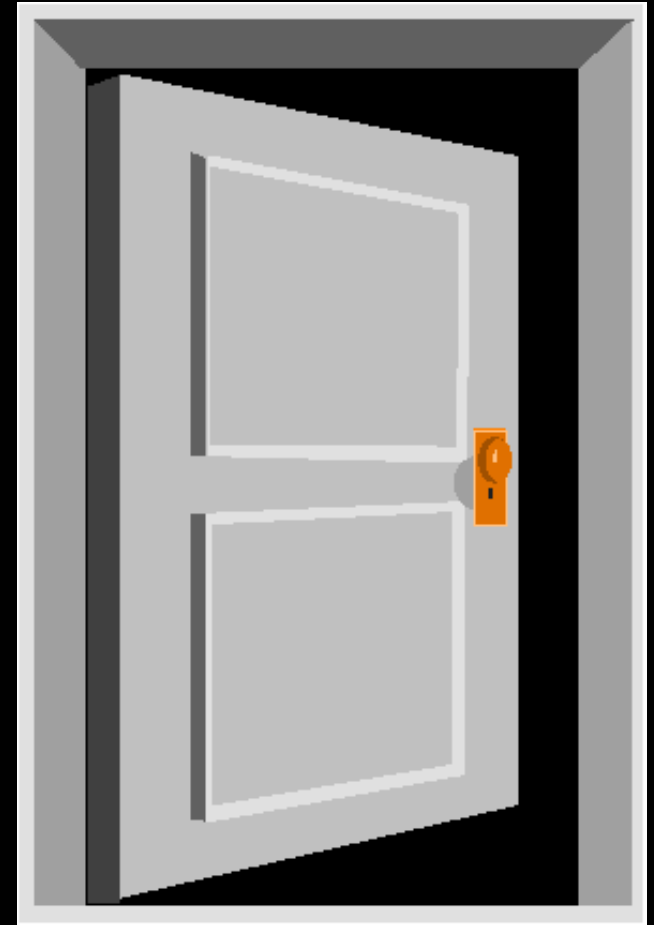
- ✓ Never store items in the oven
- ✓ Always check to ensure oven is empty before turning on the heat
- ✓ Turn off all cooking appliances during electrical power outages
- ✓ Double-check the kitchen before going to bed or leaving home



*If in doubt...**JUST GET OUT!***

When you leave:

- Close doors behind you to contain the fire
- Call 911 from a safe place after you leave



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*If You Do Try to Fight the **FIRE!***

- ✓ Ensure others are getting out
- ✓ Ensure you have a clear path to the exit
- ✓ Instruct someone to call 911
- ✓ Ensure you know how to use your fire extinguisher – ***before a fire occurs***



*If in doubt...**JUST GET OUT!***



FACT: Smoke alarm operation 1997 to 2006



48%

of deadly home
fires in Ontario –
*no smoke alarm
warned the
family!*



Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives

It's The Law!



- ✓ On every storey of your home (including the basement) and outside all sleeping areas
- ✓ Test smoke alarms monthly
- ✓ Clean them twice a year
- ✓ Replace batteries twice a year
- ✓ Replace smoke alarms when they are 10 years old
- ✓ Install smoke alarms with a HUSH/SILENCE feature



Early Detection and Escape

Working
smoke alarms



Knowing how to
react



Can save your life !

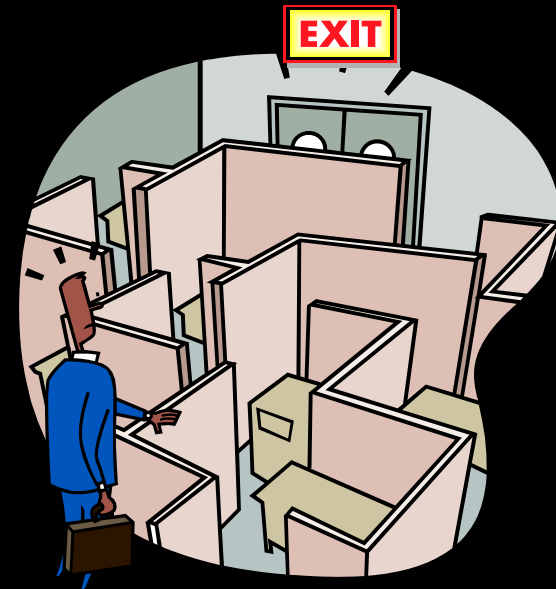
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Do you know your **EXIT** s ?

Home Escape Planning & Practice is **essential** in a fire emergency!

- ✓ Have a plan & **practice** it
- ✓ Know **2** ways out
- ✓ Keep **EXIT** s clear
- ✓ Have a meeting place
- ✓ 2 minutes or less
- ✓ Babysitting – know the escape plan



Keep your **EXIT** s clear!

MAN'S ESCAPE FROM FIRE BLOCKED BY BEER CANS

September 5, 2007

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, Ohio – An Ohio man who died in a house fire early Wednesday morning may have survived if his escape had not been blocked by a large pile of beer cans.

Crews working inside the home found McCarty's body shortly after 10 a.m., and investigators said his exit was blocked by a 5-foot tall stack of beer cans.

A caller to 911 said he couldn't get the door open.



NBC Newschannel

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Do you know how to escape safely?



- ✓ Don't PANIC
- ✓ Get low & go
- ✓ Bedroom escape
- ✓ Feel doors for heat
- ✓ Check for smoke
- ✓ Close doors & windows as you escape – don't break windows
- ✓ Get out & stay out
- ✓ Call for help from a safe place



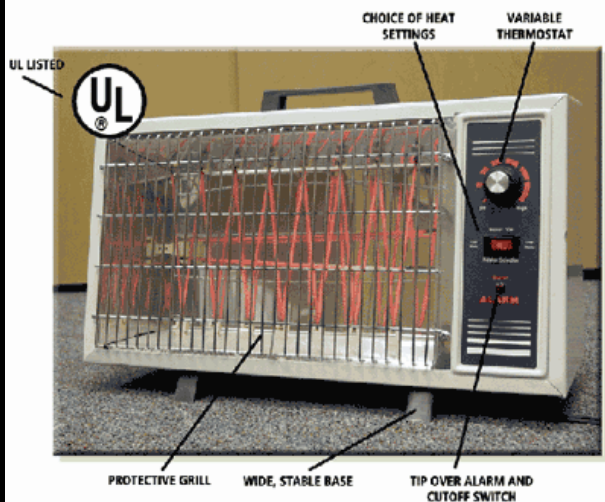
Stay Safe & Warm



- ✓ Have your heating equipment serviced annually by a professional
- ✓ Give space heaters some space – at least 1 metre away from anything that can burn
- ✓ Only use CSA or ULC approved space heaters

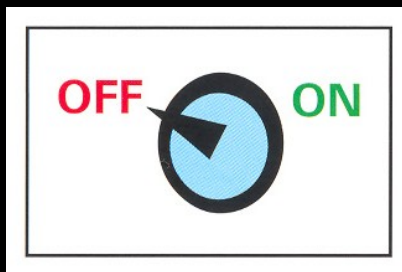


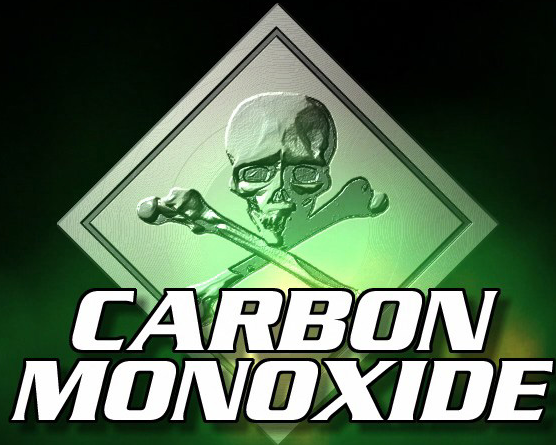
Anatomy of a Space Heater



Stay Safe & Warm

- ✓ Never leave an operating space heater unattended
- ✓ Never use an electrical space heater in a wet area like a bathroom
- ✓ Turn off space heaters when you leave the room or go to bed – better yet, unplug them





Carbon Monoxide

...the silent killer

- ✓ Install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms outside any sleeping areas
- ✓ Read and follow the manufacturer's instructions for operation and maintenance
- ✓ Replace carbon monoxide alarms every 5 – 7 years





Carbon Monoxide


...the silent killer

- ✓ CSA / ULC approved
- ✓ Battery back-up
- ✓ LCD displays
- ✓ 70ppm over 4 hr. period
- ✓ Poisoning victims may complain of headache, fatigue, or nausea



Know the symptoms of CO

Symptoms of CO poisoning vary, depending on the amount of CO in the bloodstream. The higher the concentration, the greater the danger.



**CARBON
MONOXIDE**



Know the symptoms of CO

Mild Exposure:

- ✓ Slight headache
- ✓ Nausea
- ✓ Vomiting
- ✓ Fatigue
- ✓ Flu-like symptoms



Know the symptoms of CO

Medium Exposure:

- ✓ Severe headache
- ✓ Drowsiness
- ✓ Confusion
- ✓ Rapid heart rate



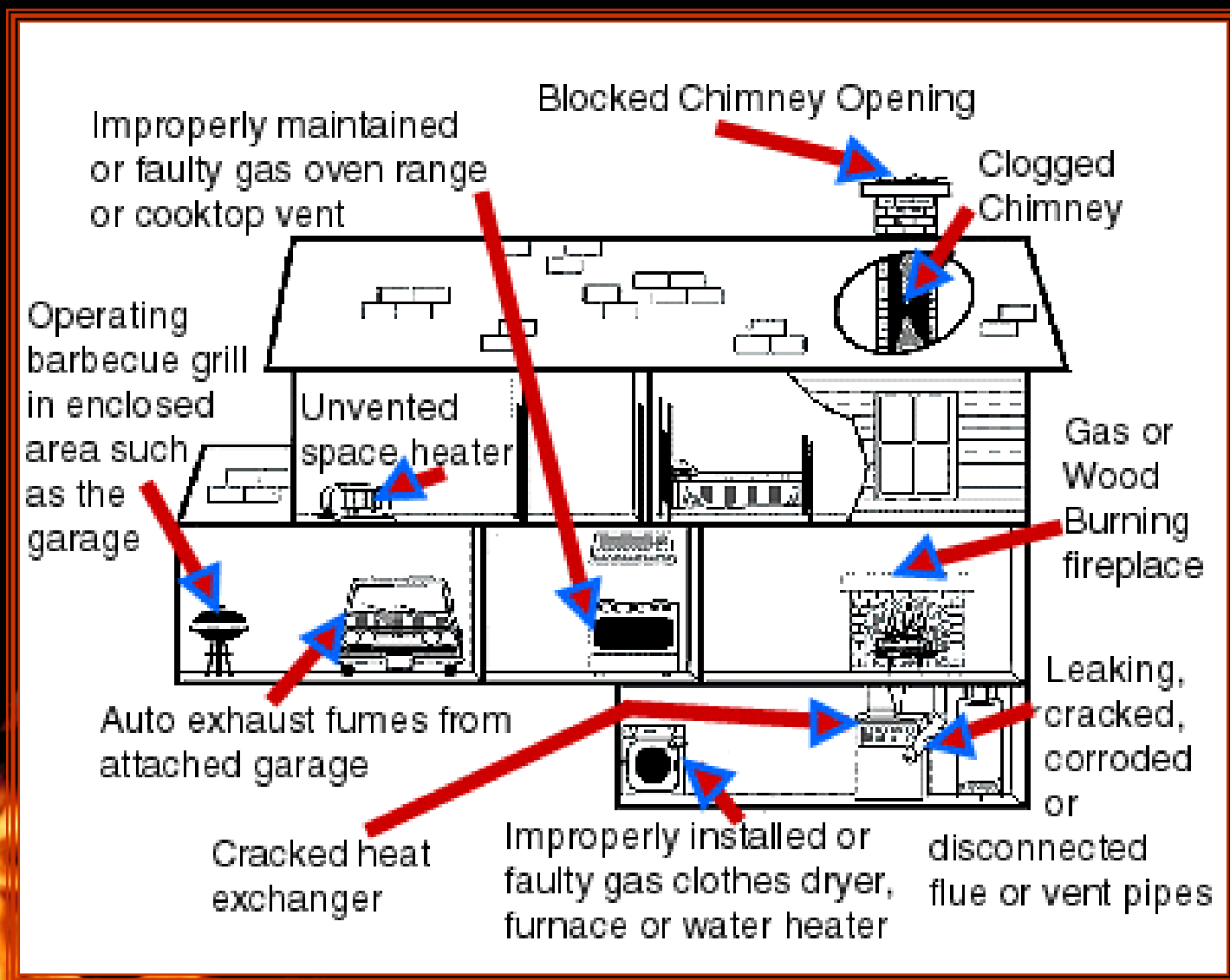
Know the symptoms of CO

Severe Exposure:

- ✓ Unconsciousness
- ✓ Convulsions
- ✓ Cardiac / respiratory failure
- ✓ Death



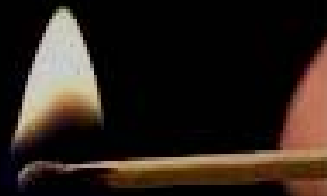
Carbon Monoxide...*the silent killer*



Striking Out **With Matches & Lighters**

Consequences of playing with fire!

In an instant...



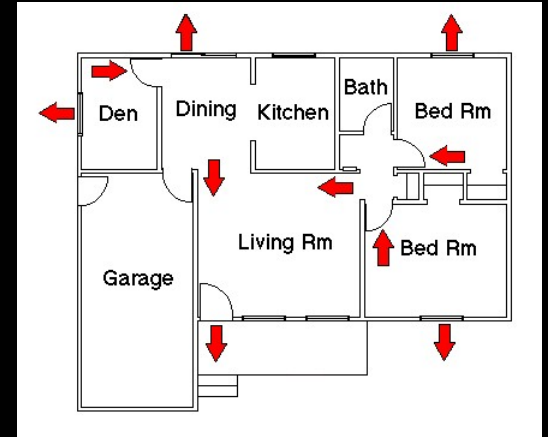
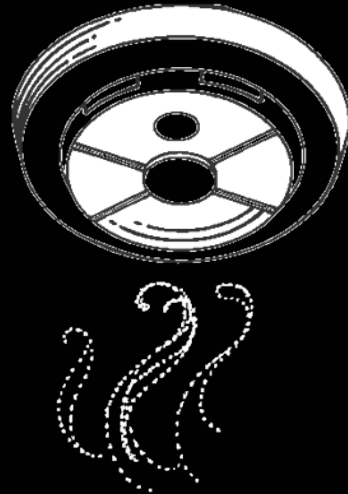
**Keep matches & lighters out
of children's hands!**

Lives could depend on it!





Prevention – Detection – Escape



Your fire safety begins with **you!**

Thank You...

