

# FIRE SAFE

OREGON FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION PLAN



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## MARCH

### *FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION PLAN*

In March we will focus on Youth Fire Safety, highlighting some important messages that are often forgotten when we talk about fire safety. While practicing a home fire escape, and understanding that fire is a tool for adults and not a toy for kids is extremely important, this month, we will emphasize what they should know if faced with an emergency independent of their grownups.

OSFM Fire Prevention webinar series will support fire service educators in effective strategies and resources in an education setting and techniques for working with audience members with sensory processing disorders.

# YOUTH FIRE SAFETY

## MARCH



## NOTABLE DATES

- **March 2nd:** Read Across America Day
- **March 8th:** International Women's Day
- **March 12th-16th:** Flood Safety Awareness week
- **March 13th:** Daylight Saving time begins: Time to test those smoke alarms!
- **March 20th:** 1st Day of Spring
- **March 20th-26th:** National Poison Prevention week
- Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

**March 9th, 2022**

Fire Safety Books for all ages

[Register Here](#)

**March 23rd, 2022**

Fire Prevention Webinar Series

[Prevention for sensory processing disorders](#)

**March 15th & 16th, 2022**

NFPA 1035 Training

[Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Specialist](#)



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

503-934-8228 | OSFM 3565 TRELSTAD AVE SE SALEM, OR 97317

# YOUTH FIRE SAFETY

## MARCH

### CALENDAR

#### **February 27th - March 5th:** Who can I call if I need help?

Call 911 from a safe place when there is an emergency. Know the phone numbers of friends, family, or a neighbor who can help if your family needs help.

**VIDEO: When & how to call 911. Teaching children how to call 911 using various phones.**

#### **NFPA Messaging: Reporting and Emergency**

- The fire department will help if there is an emergency. Examples of an emergency include fire and serious injury.
- Remember, you call the fire department only in an emergency. Calling the fire department when there is no emergency could cause others to not get the help they need. It can also put firefighters in danger needlessly.
- When the fire department answers the phone, tell them:
  - The type of emergency
  - Your name
  - The location that you are calling from
  - The telephone number from where you are calling
- Stay on the telephone until the fire department tells you to hang up.

#### **March 6th - March 12th:** Know your address

When calling for help in an emergency, it is important for kids to be able to clearly provide their address. Parents should be reminded that even older kids may need reminders of their address so they are prepared in case of an emergency. Older youth should also be taught to be aware of the address of places they spend time in often, such as a friend's house or common hangout spot.



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### CALENDAR

#### **March 13th - March 19th:** Have a family meeting place

All members of a house hold should know where to go when there is an emergency. Young children should be given opportunities to practice often.

A family meeting place should:

- Be in front of the house so that emergency responders can see you as they are approaching.
- Be a common, permanent landmark such as a mailbox or a tree.
- Be a safe distance from the house. Consider the abilities and development level of each family member to ensure everyone is able to make it to the meeting place as safely as possible. For example, small children may not be safe to cross a busy road so the neighbor's mailbox may be a better option.

#### **NFPA Messaging: Reporting and Emergency**

- Make a home escape plan. Draw a map of each level of the home. Show all doors and windows. Go to each room and point to the two ways out. Practice the plan with everyone in your household, including visitors.
- Children, older adults, and people with disabilities may need assistance to wake up and get out. Make sure that someone will help them.
- Teach your children how to escape on their own in case you cannot help them. Make sure they can open windows, remove screens, and unlock doors.
- Have a plan for everyone in your home who has a disability.
- Practice your home fire escape drill with overnight guests.
- Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows that lead outside open.
- If a room has a window air conditioner, make sure there is still a second way out of the room





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#### **March 20th - March 26th:** Know your role in home fire safety

While home fire safety is generally an adult responsibility, each member of a home plays an important role in fire safety.

##### **Young children can:**

- Help put away toys and keep pathways clear to avoid tripping or injury hazards in the event of an emergency.
- Maintain a 3-foot safety zone around the stove while their adult is cooking to help avoid distraction, bumping the heat source, and pulling hot items off counter tops which could cause injuries. They can also help to keep their family pets out of this area.

##### **Older kids can:**

- Model appropriate behavior while practicing home fire escapes drills.
- Help younger siblings escape in the event of a fire.
- Know and practice an emergency plan for times that they are babysitting or otherwise left to care for young household members.
- Know important contact information for reporting an emergency



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#### March 27th - April 2nd: Some kids can sleep through anything

Studies have shown that children are often able to sleep through the sound of a smoke alarm, making it that much more important for families to plan and practice an escape plan at night. While there are several theories as to why kids sleep through an alarm that often easily wakes an adult, researchers have found that families should expect to need to wake sleeping children when a smoke alarm sounds.

#### Consider the following when making a plan:

- Before going to bed, adults should know where everyone in the house hold is sleeping.
- Assign an adult to each child sleeping in the home in the event an alarm sounds.
- Sleeping with bedroom doors closed can create a barrier to smoke and fire spread, allowing for necessary and valuable time to wake all family members and help them escape.

#### Available Resources:

The below resources are available to print from home, or if Oregon fire agencies and our partners would like printed materials for local distribution at events or in the classroom, please submit a request [HERE](#).

[Home Safety Checklist \(English and Spanish\)](#)

Guide to Home Escape Planning: [English](#) [Spanish](#)

Fire Safety Randomizer: [English](#) [Spanish](#)

[Fire Prevention Paper Airplane](#)

[College Student Fire Safety](#)



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