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Working hard to keep you safe

Every year the fire department works hard to make the community safe and to teach others about fire prevention. Besides responding to fire calls, the department takes part in many other activities within the fire district.

Each year the Fairview Fire Department does nearly 1500 business fire safety inspections. These inspections are done on all the businesses in the fire district. Each business is done between 1 and 3 times per year depending on occupancy. Performing these inspections allows us to help prevent fires before they start. It also gives our firefighters an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the business which can save valuable time if there is an incident. Some of the items we check during an inspection are fire extinguishers, exits, exit and emergency lighting, storage of combustible materials, address numbers, electrical issues, fire alarms, sprinkler systems and hood systems. The department finds the violations and works with the businesses to resolve the issues. Most of these are minor violations and are resolved in a very expedient manner.

The firefighters also train constantly throughout the year to maintain the highest possible levels of training and certifications. Last year the department logged a total of 4712 training hours. This training helps the department provide the best possible service to our community. The training is done pri-

marily through the fire department and through college training. Fire extinguishment, pump operations, hazardous materials, vehicle extrication, ventilation and fire investigation are just a few of the topics covered.

Another important service the fire department does for the community is teaching fire prevention. The department provides fire prevention training to each of the schools in the fire district. Each year about 2000 children are provided with fire safety skills and information that may one day save a life. We teach the children a variety of things; ways to prevent fires, what to do if there is a fire, checking the smoke detectors in their homes and properly using 911. The department also participates in different events throughout the city handing out fire prevention materials and answering questions.



Inside this issue:

Smoke Detector Replacement	2
Volunteers needed	2
Move Right	2
Carbon Monoxide	3
House Numbers	3
Statistics	3
Fire safety checklist	4
Fire Responses	4

Open House

October 9, 2019
Engine House #2
214 Ashland Avenue
6:00 to 9:00



Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms give you an early warning of a fire. Your home needs working smoke alarms. Most children who die in fires live in homes without working smoke alarms.



Smoke Alarm Checklist

Ask yourself if these statements are true in your home.

- You have smoke alarms on every level of your home.
- You have smoke alarms inside and outside of all the sleeping areas.
- All of your smoke alarms work.
- You test your smoke alarm each month.
- Your smoke alarms are less than 10 years old.
- Everyone knows the sound of the alarm.



Fire Escape Planning and Practice

In a fire, every second counts. Having a plan can save your life. Talk with your family about what to do if there is a fire. Know two ways out from each room. Know how you will get your baby out in an emergency.



Fire Escape Checklist

Ask yourself if these statements are true in your home.

- You have a fire escape plan for your home.
- You know two ways out of every room.
- You know the best way to take your baby outside if there is a fire.
- You practice the plan with everyone who lives in your home at least twice a year.
- You have a meeting place outside.
- Everyone knows how to call 9-1-1 from outside to report a fire.
- You know not to go back inside until the firefighters tell you it's safe.

Do you want to make a difference? Be a volunteer

The Volunteer will

- 1. Gain valuable training and skills in fire science
- 2. Obtain satisfaction in serving your community
- 3. Provide indispensable life saving and property protection and service to your neighbors
- 4. Become a member of a respected firefighting team

The Fairview Fire Department will provide

- 1. Training from basic to advanced levels at NO COST
- 2. Supply all specialized clothing and firefighting gear
- 3. Life insurance as well as workman's compensation
- 4. Opportunities to earn pay for part-time work when needed

For more Information contact the Fairview Fire Department at Engine House # 2 233-2121 or Engine House # 1 394-8484

Move Right for Sirens and Lights

Page 2 FIRE PREVENTION 2019

Carbon Monoxide - "The Silent Killer"

Illinois law on Carbon Monoxide detectors

Effective January 1, 2007, the state of Illinois passed a law requiring every dwelling unit to be equipped with at least one approved carbon monoxide alarm in an operating condition within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping purposes. CO alarms must be equipped with a battery back-up.

What is carbon monoxide?

Carbon Monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels such as gasoline, natural gas, wood, coal, propane, oil and methane burns incompletely. Heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel and improperly vented fireplaces are some items the home that can be potential sources of carbon monoxide. Vehicles running in a garage or running a generator inside your home or garage can also produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

What are the symptoms of CO poisoning?

CO poisoning is often confused with flu symptoms. Some symptoms include shortness of breath, dizziness, nausea, light headedness and headaches. High levels of CO can be fatal, causing death within minutes.

Safety Tips

- Install CO alarms in your home to provide warning of CO. CO alarms should be placed in a central area outside each sleeping area. If bedrooms are spaced apart, each area will need a CO alarm.
- Test CO alarms once a month and replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- CO alarms are NOT substitutes for smoke alarms.
- Have fuel burning equipment (furnaces, fireplaces, chimneys etc.) inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in.
- When using a fireplace, remember to open the flue for adequate ventilation.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Do not run a vehicle, generator, or other fueled engine inside, even if garage doors are open.
- Never use a barbecue grill inside the home or garage.
- If your CO alarm sounds, move to fresh air and call for help. Remain in the fresh air until emergency personnel say it is ok.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries or other trouble indicators.

House Numbers

Seconds can be the difference in life and death in an emergency situation. To ensure the quickest response possible, be sure that the number on your house and can be easily seen and read from the street. Numbers 4 inches in height should be used. Placing your house number on your mailbox in large, reflective numbers can also help emergency personnel find your house quickly.



Statistics

The department responded to 552 incidents last year and saved 94.91% of the property involved in fires (\$5,312,779.00 involved - \$4,467,719.00 saved).

The average response time for the calls was 3 minutes 54 seconds. This is the time it takes the Fire Department to respond to the location of the incident once you have called.

The average number of fire fighters responding to calls was 8 during the day and 11 at night.



214 Ashland Ave.. 10045 Bunkum Rd. Fairview Hgts. IL. 62208



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WORKING SMOKE DETECTOR SAVE LIVES

FAIRVIEW FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Visit us online at www.fairviewfiredept.com

Fire Safety Checklist

- **Test Your Smoke Alarm** Install a smoke alarm on every floor of your home and outside all sleeping areas. Test the smoke alarms once a month and change the batteries twice a year.
- Plan Your Escape Create and practice a home escape plan with your family. Be sure to include a meeting place once outside the home.
- Keep Matches and Lighters in a Safe Area Always keep matches and lighters stored high in a locked cabinet or a locked box. Kids imitate adults, set a safe example.
- Cook Safely Never leave cooking unattended and keep the cooking area clutter free. Keep children out of the kitchen while cooking.
- **Give Space Heaters Space** Keep all combustibles three feet away from portable heaters.
- Extinguish Smoking Materials Before emptying the contents of an ashtray into the trash, wet the contents to ensure complete extinguishment.
- **Electrical Safety** Replace damaged electrical cords and repair or replace appliances that smell, smoke, or overheat.

<u> 2018 Fire Calls</u>

Structure fires - 10

Vehicle fires - 11

Brush/Other fires - 24

Extrication/rescues - 16

Hazardous conditions - 65

Service calls/unauthorized burning - 91

Good intent/nothing found - 77

False alarms/system malfunction - 52

False alarms/accidental activation - 104

False calls/mischievous - 8

Mutual aid to other departments - 92

Mutual aid Received - 3

Calls From Midnight to 8:00 –78 Calls From 8:00 to 4:00 - 244

Calls 4:00 to Midnight - 228