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State of New Hampshire
Office of the State Fire Marshal



SAFETY EDUCATOR

Thanks to our 2014-2015 Calendar Contest winners, we can keep these important summer fire and life safety messages in mind!

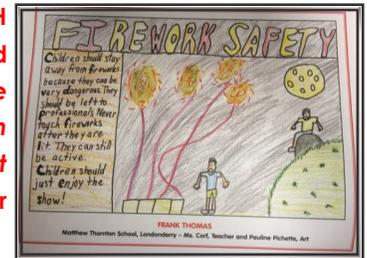
JUNE: Home Escape Planning



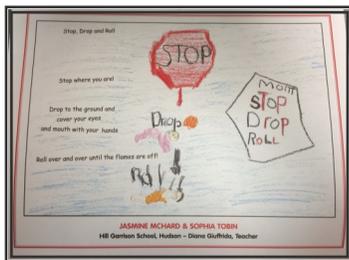
Paige Boudreau of Hills Garrison School in Hudson, NH would like to remind the citizens of New Hampshire on the importance of discussing a *home escape plan* with everyone living and visiting your home. Be sure to create a map of every room with two ways out as well as creating a meeting place outdoors away from the home. Already have one? GREAT!! Practice! Practice! Learn more and create your emergency plan today! [▶▶ Learn More](#)

JULY: Firework Safety

Thank you Frank Thomas of Matthew Thornton Elementary School in Londonderry, NH for reminding everyone on the importance of *Firework Safety* especially around children. Frank reminds us that, "*Children should stay away from fireworks because they can be very dangerous. They should be left to professionals. Never touch fireworks after they are lit. They can still be active. And that children should just enjoy the show!*" These important reminders on firework safety are not only great for children, but for grownups as well! [▶▶ Learn More Safety Tips on page 5](#)



AUGUST: Stop, Drop & Roll



Together Jasmine Mchard and Sophia Tobin shared the correct way to stop, drop and roll should you catch on fire. The correct steps are:

1. Stop where you are!
2. Drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands.
3. Roll over and over until the flames are off!

Thank you both for sharing this IMPORTANT safety message with families throughout the State of NH! [▶▶ LEARN MORE](#)

THANK YOU to the all the winning students for sharing their talents and important safety messages that have encouraged the Citizens of NH to be safer and more aware this school year!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

3rd Annual Fire & Life Safety Calendar Contest Winners Awarded!

Be Safer This Summer	2
Bicycle Safety	3
'Tis The Season For Campfires	3
Car Fire Prevention &	4
Emergency Escape Plan	4
Sparklers NOT for ALL Ages	5
Grill Safety	5

The NH State Fire Marshal's Office along with the NH Fire Prevention Society celebrated an evening of Recognition with the winners of the 2015-2016 School Year Calendar Contest. Guests included 3rd grade students, their families, teachers, fire personnel and special guests. The school year calendars will be distributed during the summer months so that schools, communities and citizens in the state of NH can learn and review fire and life safety messages daily within their home. If you would like further information regarding this contest for your 3rd grade student to participate in please contact: Mary.MacCaffrie@dos.nh.gov.





Be SAFER This SUMMER



Warm weather brings more opportunity for outdoor activities. Whether they are young children or teens, keep your kids safe and healthy while they enjoy the summer fun! Click the icons or learn more for information on each subject.



PROTECT YOUR SKIN: Sunscreen is a standard product for not only the beach, but also day to day walking around and outdoor activities. APPLY sunscreen before going outdoors. Contact your primary care to find out what product is best for you and your family. [▶▶▶ LEARN MORE](#)



WATER SAFETY: Protect yourself and your kids in the water where you swim and play.

- Swim in designated areas supervised by lifeguards.
- Always swim with a buddy; do not allow anyone to swim alone.
- Never leave a young child unattended near water and do not trust a child's life to another child. Teach children to always ask permission to go near water.
- Maintain constant supervision.
- If you have a pool, secure it with appropriate barriers.

[▶▶▶ LEARN MORE](#)



BOAT SAFETY:

- Don't Overload --Observe passenger and weight limits.
- Wear Life Jackets or Vests -- State law requires one wearable life preserver for each person in a boat. All children age 12 or under must wear an approved vest or jacket.
- Know the Water -- Always carry a chart (map).
- Operate boat at a safe speed at all times.

[▶▶▶ LEARN MORE](#)



PLAYGROUND SAFETY:

- Actively supervise children on playgrounds.
- Take your kids to playgrounds with shock-absorbing surfaces such as rubber, synthetic turf, sand, pea gravel, wood chips or mulch. If your child falls, the landing will be more cushioned than on asphalt, concrete, grass or dirt.
- Dress appropriately for the playground. Remove necklaces, purses, scarves or clothing with drawstrings that can get caught on equipment and pose a strangulation hazard. Even helmets can be dangerous on a playground, so save those for bikes.

[▶▶▶ LEARN MORE](#)



YARD SAFETY:

- Wear protective goggles and ear protection while using outdoor machinery to prevent sight and hearing-loss injuries.
- Keep all garden tools out of reach of children.
- Fuel mowers outside and only when the motor is completely cool.
- Store small quantities of gasoline outside the home in a detached garage or shed, tightly sealed in an approved safety container.

[▶▶▶ LEARN MORE](#)



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT TUESDAY, AUGUST 4th 5:30-7:30

Concord Police Department will be hosting its annual **National Night Out** at Rollins Park Aug 4th from 5:30-8:30pm. This event is FUN for ALL ages and is **not only held in Concord** but across the country to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, strengthen neighborhood and police relationships and to send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are fighting back against crime. Be sure to look in your community for the date and time of your nearest event! **It's a TON of fun for the whole family!**



BICYCLE SAFETY

There are so many great reasons to ride your bike: It offers fun, freedom and exercise. We hope that your summer involves as many fun outdoor bike rides as possible. Here are a few tips so that you and your family can be safer!

- **WEAR YOUR HELMET:** Safe Kids® has a fun saying, "Use your head, wear your helmet." After all it **IS** the most effective safety device available to reduce head injury and death from bicycle crashes.
 - **RIGHT SIDE OF THE ROAD:** Ride on the right side of the road with traffic. Stay far to the right.
 - **USE APPROPRIATE HAND SIGNALS:** Inform others where you are traveling with appropriate hand signals. Respect traffic signals, stopping at all stop signs and stoplights.
 - **STOP AND LOOK:** Be sure drivers are paying attention and going to stop before crossing the street. Stop completely when entering a sidewalk, path or driveway. Look left, then right then left again.
 - **WEAR BRIGHT COLORS:** Wearing bright colors makes one visible not only at night but during the day as well. Include something reflective such as reflective tape or flashing lights.
 - **SUPERVISE:** Actively supervise children until you are comfortable that they are responsible to ride on their own.
- ACTIVITY FUN: Practice makes perfect**- Practice bike safety in your driveway by creating safety scenarios for your children. Set the scene by drawing a street and crosswalks with chalk. Create props for stop signs, motor vehicles and obstacles your children might face while riding on a real street. Have children practice stopping at stop signs and using hand signals. Teach them to cross the "street" by getting off their bikes and walking across.



Learn more:

[PROPER HELMET FITTING](#)



[BIKE SAFETY](#)



'TIS THE SEASON TO REMEMBER CAMPFIRE SAFETY!



Whether you're camping under the stars in the backcountry miles away from anyone or hooking up your RV in a full-amenity trailer park, you can't afford to be careless with fire. Follow these safety tips to help keep your campfires safe and fun this summer.

OBEY FIRE RESTRICTIONS: Weather conditions can influence whether or not you can light/have a campfire. Most national, state and provincial parks will post warnings but if you are unsure, a park ranger or local fire department can inform you on what the current fire restrictions are. **Please respect and obey all fire restrictions!**

Campfire:

1. Build a campfire that is in a pre-existing fire ring or pit when possible.
2. Should you need to create a fire pit create a ring of rocks to prevent the fire from spreading. KEEP 3 feet from tent walls, dry grass, and foliage.
3. **DO NOT** allow children or pets within 3 feet of the fire pit.
4. **NEVER** leave children unsupervised. Teach/review with children how to stop, drop (cover face) and roll should their clothing catch on fire.
5. **Keep a bucket of water** and a shovel nearby in case you need to extinguish the flames quickly.
6. Stack extra wood upwind and away from the fire.
7. **Keep the fire small** enough to be extinguished quickly and easily.
8. **NEVER** leave a campfire unattended, not even for a minute.

Lights Out

- **Totally extinguish the fire** before you go to sleep or when you leave the site.
- Douse the fire and coals with as much water as possible. If water doesn't do the trick, shovel dirt on top of it.
- Not sure the campfire is out? Where there is smoke there IS POTENTIAL for fire. Smoldering coals can easily reignite. Hold your hands close to the logs/coals to feel if they are still radiating heat. If they are, continue to douse with water or dirt.



LEARN MORE BY CLICKING THESE ICONS:





CAR FIRE PREVENTION and SAFETY

Cars can catch fire for many reasons. Mechanical or electrical issues are the most common cause. A car can also catch fire as the result of a bad crash. If you see smoke or flames or smell burning rubber or plastic, follow the steps below immediately.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CAR IS ON FIRE

- ▶ **Pull over** as quickly as it is safe to do so, be sure to use your signal as you make your way to a safe location off the road such as a breakdown lane or rest stop.
- ▶ Once you have stopped, **TURN OFF** the engine.
- ▶ **GET everyone out of the car.** NEVER return to a burning car for anything.
- ▶ **CALL 9-1-1**

HOW TO PREVENT A CAR FIRE:



- Have your car serviced regularly by a professionally trained mechanic. If you spot leaks, your car is not running properly, get it checked. A well maintained car is less likely to have a fire.
- If you must transport gasoline, transport only a small amount in a certified gas can that is sealed. Keep a window open for ventilation.
- Gas cans and propane cylinders should never be transported in the passenger compartment.
- Drive safely and undistracted to avoid accidents from occurring.

KNOW THE DANGER SIGNS:

- Cracked or loose wiring or electrical problems, including a fuse that blows more than once.
- Oil or fluid leaks.
- Oil cap is not on securely.
- Rapid changes in fuel or fluid level, or engine temperature.

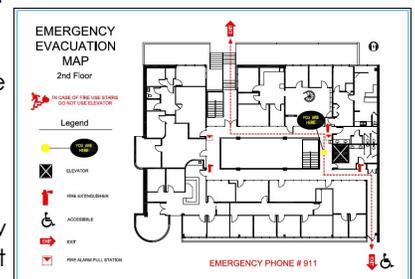
[Learn More](#)

TRAVELING? EMERGENCY ESCAPE PLANNING IS STILL NECESSARY

As summer approaches and families begin to travel away from home, hotels and motels become our home away from home. It is just as important to be prepared and know what you would do in a hotel/motel emergency as it is in your own home. Please review the following safety tips to keep you and your family safe this travel season.

PLAN AHEAD:

1. Choose a hotel/motel that is protected by both smoke alarms and fire sprinkler systems. Unsure? Ask when you call to make the reservation.
2. When traveling pack a flashlight with you.
3. Upon checking in, ask the front desk what the fire alarms sound like.
4. **Locate the fire alarms on your floor.**
5. **CREATE and REVIEW your ESCAPE PLAN:** When you enter your room, review WITH YOUR FAMILY, the escape plan posted in your room. If it is not available contact the front desk immediately.



6. **HAVE TWO WAYS OUT:** Locate two emergency exits, count the number of doors between your room and these exits. Make sure these exits are unlocked. If they are locked, REPORT it to management right away.
7. Create your family **MEETING PLACE** away from the building in an easy and safe location to find.
8. Keep your room key by your bed and take it with you if there is a fire.
9. SHOULD the alarm sound, **GET OUT and STAY OUT.** Close all doors behind you. USE THE STAIRS, never use the elevators during a fire emergency.

IF YOU CAN'T ESCAPE:

- ▶ **SHUT** off fans and air conditioners.
- ▶ **Stuff wet towels** in the cracks around the doors.
- ▶ **CALL 9-1-1** and let them know your location.
- ▶ **WAIT at the window** and signal with a flashlight or colored cloth.





SPARKLERS: **NOT** FOR ALL AGES

Sparklers light up a summer evening with their crackling glow and glowing trail of light. Kids of all ages are in awe of the sparks that fly around Fourth of July celebrations. These wire sticks are dipped to about two thirds of its length in a mixture of chemicals and metals. Oxidizers fuel the sparkler and keep it burning at temperatures that can reach more than 1200° F. Metal flakes in the mixture cause the sparking and glow that sparklers are known for. Sparklers are often thought to be safer than fireworks. However, during the excitement of Independence Day celebrations, it is easy to overlook their hazards.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reports that approximately 16 percent of all consumer fireworks injuries are caused by sparklers burning hands and legs. Young children account for the majority of sparkler injuries.



Excited kids cannot wait to hold and wave the sparklers around. As disappointed as they may be, **do not let young children hold a sparkler.** They lack the physical coordination to handle sparklers safely and likely will not know what to do in an emergency. Set a good example. The NH State Fire Marshal's Office reminds parents to be mindful when they use sparklers around children. When using sparklers safely by following these tips:

1. **Never** hand a lighted sparkler to another person. Give them an unlit sparkler and then light it.
2. Hold only **one at a time**.
3. When using sparklers **stand at least six feet away** from each other.
4. **Never** use a sparkler when sitting down or holding a child.
5. Be aware that **sparks can ignite clothing**, so avoid loose fitting clothes that could catch fire. Closed-toe shoes help prevent foot burns.
6. The **sparkler wire stays hot** long after the flame has burned out, so drop the used sparklers directly in a bucket of water.

KEEP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY SAFE. LEAVE FIREWORKS TO THE PROFESSIONALS.

[Learn More](#)



GRILL SAFETY

When the warmer weather hits, there's nothing better than the smell of food on the grill! Holding a barbecue should be a safe and fun experience for everyone. A grill placed too close to anything that can burn creates a fire hazard. It is very important to keep children, and things that have the potential to burn, away from hot charcoals and/or open flames. Three out of five households own a gas grill, which translates to a lot of tasty meals, but it also means there's an increased risk of home fires. Follow these safety tips.

- ▶ Ensure that your barbecue grill is clean and in good working order.
- ▶ NEVER use any open flame on a porch, covered patio or balcony.
- ▶ Make sure the cooking site for the grill is flat and away from sheds, fences, and overhanging branches.
- ▶ Position the grill at least 10 feet away from any structure or building.
- ▶ Regardless of the circumstances NEVER use a grill indoors, in garages, or in tents. This can pose both a fire hazard and the risk of exposing occupants to carbon monoxide.
- ▶ Keep children at least 3' away from the grill location.
- ▶ Keep outdoor games away from cooking area.
- ▶ NEVER leave grill unattended.
- ▶ Light grills with a long match or mechanical lighter designed for lighting grills.
- ▶ Keep all matches and lighters out of the reach of children.
- ▶ Use long-handled grilling tools that provide distance from heat and flames.
- ▶ Allow the grill to cool completely before moving or covering.
- ▶ Never transport a propane tank in the passenger compartment of a vehicle.



[Learn More](#)

**The New Hampshire State
Fire Marshal's Office**

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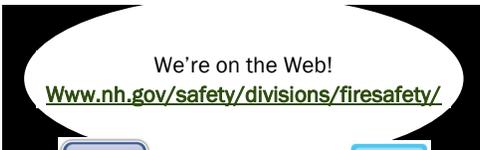
Phone: (603)223-4289
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Arson Hotline:
1-800-400-3526



Safety Educator

Would you let your child play with something that gets so hot it could melt glass? Were you aware that sparklers can reach 1200* hot enough to melt glass? Fireworks may be in season but we strongly urge you to leave them to the professionals and enjoy their display! As you create your travel vacation destination plans this summer be sure to create an escape plan with two ways out of every room and a designated meeting spot with your family. Practice together once this is complete. Not only are these important in the family home but wherever you choose to stay even if just for a night. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your local fire department or the NH State Fire Marshal's Office.

J. William Degnan
NH State Fire Marshal



Any questions or comments regarding this newsletter please feel free to contact:

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Kids Can Be Firefighters Too!

Summer 2015 Safety Educator Website Special Feature:

Sparky the Fire Dog® encourages kids to get outside and play during the summer months however there are still rainy days and what a great opportunity to have visit Sparky and have some online fun!

Visit sparky.org where you will find exciting games, fun fire trucks, Sparky Stuff, Mobile App information as well as stories and SO MUCH MORE!



Click on photo or link below to visit other Kid Friendly and Parent/Educator Approved websites:



DangerRangers.com



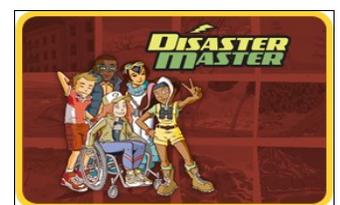
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