



October Safety Message

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK



The month of October signifies the commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire that burned from October 7-9, 1871. This tragedy increased the awareness of fire safety and prevention throughout the nation, and it prompted the creation of fire prevention programs, concepts and ideas.

This year, the National *Fire Prevention Week* is held from October 5th through October 11th, and it incorporates the fire safety theme of Check your smoke detector. One aspect of the theme is getting everyone involved in fire prevention and knowing important safety tips that could save your life if a home fire does break out. Some of the theme topics include getting rid of fire hazards in your home, how to keep your family safe using smoke alarms, and how to make and practice a home fire escape plan. Children and adults are educated in the creation of a home escape plan for their family and a method of practicing it so that they will be ready in case of a fire in their home.

When creating a home escape plan, here are some important ideas to remember:

- Identify at least two ways out of each room. They can include doors and windows. If there are non-releasable security bars on bedroom windows, they should either be removed or replaced with releasable type bars.
- Draw your home escape plan showing each room of the home and directional arrows indicating how to escape from each room.
- Determine a meeting place outside the home where all occupants will gather once they have escaped.
- Make sure there is at least one working smoke detector on every floor of your home.
- Practice your home escape plan periodically so that everyone in your home is familiar with it.

With everyone's cooperation, we will increase fire safety awareness for residents in the proper methods of creating, planning and practicing a home escape plan and drill. Knowledge that is gained and practiced now can prevent a tragedy in the future.

For more information, please contact the Albany Fire Prevention Office at 510-528-5775.

