



DAVIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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News Release

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Agencies Remind All To Prevent Home Fires

(Clearfield, Utah) – When thinking of a fire, especially at this time of year, people tend to think of something cozy, warm, and useful. That’s true when it’s in control. According to safety-related officials, when fire is out of control it can be extremely dangerous and spread quickly.

Members of Safe Kids Davis County and North Davis Fire District are reminding families to take active measures to prevent fires in the home.

Safe Kids Davis County Coordinator, Teresa Smith, said there are a variety of precautions to take that prevent injuries from a fire. “Having a working smoke alarm reduces a person’s chances of dying in a fire by nearly half,” she said. “Installing these important safety devices could save the life of a loved one in case of an emergency.”

“Davis County Health Department is the lead agency of Safe Kids Davis County and strongly supports community partnerships like this with North Davis Fire District,” Smith said.

Qualified families living within the North Davis Fire District (which includes Clearfield and West Point) can receive a smoke/CO (carbon monoxide) detector for their home as well as get installation help by firefighters, announced Captain Chris Tremea. “Also, we will be out in the schools reminding students about fire safety including what to do in a fire and how to escape,” he said. For smoke/CO detector qualification information, contact Captain Tremea at the North Davis Fire District by calling 801-525-2850.

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Important fire and burn safety tips for parents/caregivers include:

- Keep matches, gasoline, lighters and all other flammable materials locked away, out of children's reach.
- Keep children three giant steps away from cooking and heating appliances, and never leave the kitchen while cooking. Use back burners and turn pot handles to the back of the stove when cooking.
- Have a fire escape plan. Make sure children understand the plan and what to do when they hear the smoke alarm.
- Place space heaters at least 3 feet from curtains, papers, furniture, and other flammable materials. Always turn space heaters and other appliances off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Install smoke alarms on every level of the home, outside every sleeping area and in each bedroom. Test alarms every month and change the batteries once a year, even if they are hard-wired. Smoke alarms also are available with 10-year lithium batteries.
- Consider a home sprinkler system. The combination of smoke alarms and sprinklers can reduce chances of dying in a fire by 82 percent.

“Approximately 80 percent of all fire-related deaths and injuries occur in the home,” said Lewis Garrett, director of Davis County Health Department. “Young children are at a particularly high risk because they don't perceive danger as readily and can lack the ability to escape a life-threatening fire situation.”

“All parents and caregivers need to make sure they have working smoke alarms at home and that children know what to do when they hear the alarm,” he said.

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