JB MDL Office of Emergency Management (OEM)



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MONTHLY

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Clothes Dryer Safety:

The leading cause of home clothes dryer and washer fires is failure to clean them.

- •Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- •Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.
- Make sure you clean the lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- •Rigid or flexible metal venting material should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- •Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- •Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and don't overload your dryer.
- •Turn the dryer off if you leave home or go to bed.
- •Every home with a fuelburning appliance/heater/ gas dryer, should have a carbon monoxide alarm.
- •Place the alarm at least 15 feet away from fuelburning appliances

Fire Prevention

Escape Planning "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!"

- In 2015, there were an estimated 380,900 reported home structure fires and 3,362 associated civilian deaths in the United States.

Fire can spread rapidly through your home, leaving you as little as one or two minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds.

- The four main causes of residential fires in 2015 were cooking (50.8%), heating (10.8%), electrical malfunction (6.4%) and unintentional/carelessness (6.4%).
- Prior to an emergency, pull together everyone in your household and make a plan. Walk through your home and inspect all possible exits and escape routes. Households with children should consider drawing a floor plan of



- your home, marking two ways out of each room, including windows and doors. Also, mark the location of each smoke alarm.
- Create a home escape plan; develop and practice your plan with everyone in the home. This is a great way to get children involved in fire safety in a non-threatening way!

As with all emergencies, there are some terms that you need to know. Below are described terms that you may hear declared when emergency alerts go out through notification systems.

Declaration Terminology

Lockdown - Active shooter on base

Limited Release - CAT / EOC members and Emergency Responders can move to respective areas to support the Incident Commander

Stay Inside - To avoid possible blast effects or window fragmentation

Evacuation - Flee hazardous area to predesignated assembly location(s)

Shelter In-Place - There are hazardous air contaminates in your area

Smoke Alarms:

- A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire. Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home.
- Smoke alarms should be interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- Test your smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- There are two kinds of alarms. Ionization smoke alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires. It is best to use both types of alarms in the home.
- When a smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside.
- Replace all smoke alarms in your home every 10 years.



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