



LET'S TALK FIRE SAFETY

Valdosta Fire Department

Volume 2, Issue 10

October 2017

“Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!”

Home Escape Plan

Having a home escape plan can be a life saver.

Every two and a half hours someone is killed in a home fire. In a typical year, 20,000 people are injured in home fires.

They are easy to create. You just draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.

Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.

Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.

Make sure the number of your home is clearly

marked and easy for the fire department to find.

Safety Tips

- Have a clear path to your exits.
- Make sure doors and



windows are not blocked by anything that can hinder your escape.

- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside,

stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building for any reason.

- Choose an outside meeting place in front of your home.
- Call for help at a neighbor's house or from a safe location away from your home.

Always Remember

- Having a home escape plan along with working smoke alarms increases your chances of making it out of a house fire alive and uninjured.
- There might be special considerations to be made for a young child, an older adult, or a person with a disability. Assign someone to help them get outside.

National Fire Protection Association

<http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/by-topic/safety-in-the-home/escape-planning/basic-fire-escape-planning>

Solve the Fire Wuzzles

WUZZLES are word puzzles consisting of combinations of words, letters, figures or symbols positioned to create disguised words, phrases, names, places, sayings, etc.

For example, the solution to NOON GOOD is “Good afternoon” and LINE READ LINE is “Read between the lines.”

<u>STAND</u>	CO
EYE	UN
	T

Answers to last month's wuzzles are red hot and temperature rising.

Fire Safety Quiz

- It's okay to go back inside a home that is on fire to retrieve something you forgot.
 - True
 - False
- When exiting a burning building, it is important to _____ the door behind you.
 - Open
 - Crack
 - Close
 - None of the above.

Answers to last month's quiz are 1. A. & 2. B.

“I survived because the fire inside me burned brighter than the fire around me.”-Joshua Graham

Tell guests or visitors to your home about your family's fire escape plan. When staying overnight at other people's homes, ask about their escape plan. If they don't have a plan in place, offer to help them make one. This is especially important when children are permitted to attend "sleepovers" at friends' homes.

If windows or doors in your home have security bars, make sure that the bars have emergency release devices inside so that they can be opened immediately in an emergency. Emergency release devices won't compromise your security - but they will increase your chances of safely escaping a home fire.

Have a fire safety question you would like for the Fire Department to answer? Please contact Ms. Tangela Rowe at 229-333-1835 or you can send an email to: valdostafire@valdostacity.com



Freddie D. Broome, Fire Chief