



# Home Fire Safety Inspection Checklist

## Exterior

- Make house number visible from street
- Trim trees away from electrical wires

## Heating Equipment and Fireplaces

- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet from all combustibles
- Properly maintain heating and air conditioning systems
- Clean lint from behind dryer
- Install a spark screen in front of the fireplace
- Have chimney cleaned and inspected annually
- Install spark arrester on chimney
- Dispose ashes in metal containers
- Keep combustibles and flammable liquids away from water heaters

## Electrical

- Avoid overloading electrical circuits, use approved power strips with internal breakers
- Inspect electrical cords and appliances for damage
- Do not tack or staple cords to the wall or run them under rugs
- Maintain airflow around electrical equipment such as, TV, VCR's and stereos
- Do not use splices or damaged electrical cords
- Flammable Liquid & Hazardous Materials
- Dispose of recycled and household hazardous materials properly
- Store household cleaning materials in proper containers with tight fitting lids and correct identification labels
- Allow for proper ventilation when using flammable liquids and hazardous materials
- Put oily rags in metal containers with tight fitting lids, not in a pile where they can spontaneously ignite

## Cooking

- Never leave cooking unattended
- Cuff shirt sleeves and turn pot handles in when cooking
- Never store combustibles in oven or on top of the stove
- When grilling move grill at least 10 feet away from house
- Dispose of coals/ashes in metal containers

## Smoking Materials and Candles

- Never leave cigarettes or candles unattended
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children
- Purchase and use ashtrays that have center support feature
- Empty ashtrays into noncombustible containers only
- Place candles in noncombustible, sturdy holders

## Smoke Alarms

- Install smoke alarms inside and outside every sleeping room in the home, and on each level of your home
- Test smoke alarms once a month and change the batteries twice a year
- Replace smoke detector every 10 years or if it is not functioning properly

## Fire Extinguishers

- Purchase a multipurpose (ABC) extinguisher
- Follow manufactures instructions for fire extinguishers

## Develop - Practice Home Escape Plans

- Be sure to include: crawling low under smoke, two exits out of every room, and a meeting place outside the home
- Practice the escape plan with each member of your family
- Teach all family members how to call 911

**For more information or additional resources**  
**www.uptexas.org or call**  
**University Park Fire Department**  
**214-987-5380**