



Be Ready Tip(s) of the Month

November Tip: **Keep the Home Fires Burning Safely for the Holidays.**

Heating fires account for 36% of residential home fires every year during winter months. Kerosene heaters, candles, and wood burning fireplaces are big culprits. In less than 30 seconds, a small flame can get completely out of control and it only takes minutes for a house to fill with thick black smoke and become engulfed in flames. Be Ready.



- Tip #1:** **Install smoke detectors** on each level of your home.
- Tip #2:** When Daylight Savings Time ends on November 3, **check your smoke alarm battery** when you change your clocks.
- Tip #3:** Keep anything combustible at least three feet away from any heating source.
- Tip #4:** Use kerosene heaters only where approved by authorities, and refuel outside only after the heater has cooled.
- Tip #5:** **Never leave a burning candle** unattended or abandoned.
- Tip #6:** **Use fire screens** to keep the fire in the fireplace and have your chimney cleaned every year.
- Tip #7:** **Prepare and practice a fire escape plan twice a year** with everyone in your household, including children and people with disabilities. It's also a good idea to practice your plan with overnight guests.

For more information, view the information prepared by the U.S. Fire Administration in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/>.

Be/stay informed, make a plan, build a kit and pass it on, so all are prepared.

Semper Paratus!