

SMOKER ALERT!



Smoking is not only hazardous to your health from a medical point of view, it is also the cause of tens of thousands of home fires every year with a tremendous loss of property and human life.

Remember that unnoticed cigarette embers and red hot ashes can smolder for hours between seat cushions or on carpeting before bursting into flames.

If you must smoke, use deep heavy ash trays that are hard to tip over. Never leave a lit cigarette in an ash tray unattended. Don't allow ash trays to become over filled. Always extinguish all butts with water before dumping them in the trash.

SAFE MEASURES



Smoke detectors save lives! No matter how many precautions and preventative steps you take, never overlook the importance of an adequate and reliably powered alarm system.

Keep matches, lighters and other fire starting equipment under secure lock and key. Don't give temptation a chance.



When birthdays and holidays are celebrated with burning candles, never leave them unattended or placed close to wiring, flammable fabrics or walls that could catch fire. Be safety conscious... be thoughtful, cautious and alert. Treat fire respectfully yourself, and your children will follow your lead.

FIRE SAFE SUMMARY

Every year thousands of homes and hundreds of lives could have been saved from loss due to accidental fire if these important tips were put into practice:-

- 1 Keep matches and lighters locked safely away, where children can't see them or reach them.
- 2 Teach youngsters that matches and lighters are tools not toys, and that are used by responsible adults to make controlled fires for cooking, lighting or heating.
- 3 Careless smoking endangers the entire household. Always be cautious with burning tobacco. Make sure all embers are dead out. Use deep, stable ash trays. Extinguish butts and ashes with water before dumping them into the trash. Never smoke when feeling drowsy.



FIRE SAFE LIGHTER & MATCH TIPS



OUR FAMILY HELPING YOURS
LAFAYETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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LIGHTERS & MATCHES ARE TOOLS, NOT TOYS!



Hundreds of children lose their lives every year in home fires caused by carelessly playing with matches or cigarette lighters. Many youngsters develop a fascination with fire at a very early age. Unless they are effectively taught the fundamentals of caution and respect, that fascination could prove to be very dangerous indeed.

Teaching children to be cautious and wary of the dangers of fire is a mind-set that will be transmitted to youngsters automatically if the parents are conscientious and display good fire safety habits and practices themselves.

This brochure is being provided to offer parents some **important tips** about fire safety with lighters and matches in homes where young and often curious children abide.

The first important point to remember is... never use matches or lighters as a source of amusement for children. Never present fire in an entertaining way because doing this will connect the idea of play and fun with fire. It could act as an inducement for experimenting themselves.

THEY'RE NOT FOR PLAY SO LOCK THEM AWAY

Thoughtful parents would never dream of leaving sharp knives, a loaded gun or poisonous substances lying carelessly around the home where young children could get their hands on them. Matches and lighters are equally dangerous! They should be given the same cautious consideration. Always keep matches and lighters safely locked away when not in use... out of reach and out of sight.

Furthermore, children need to be encouraged to tell a parent or responsible older person if matches or lighters are left thoughtlessly within easy reach. The positive reaction or praise received should be more rewarding than the possible attraction to play with fire.



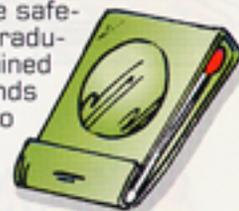
SUPERVISION EQUALS SAFETY

Of course all home fires caused by children are started when they are not being watched by a responsible older person. Even when matches and lighters are away, there is always the possibility that they will be discovered by curious little hands and eyes. Youngsters need to be supervised at all times. Know where they are and what they're up to! Also, bear in mind that the largest portion of home fires started by children happen around beds, curtains, draperies and upholstered furniture. These items ignite easily and can generate enough fire which will cause damage and harm!



As an added precaution, use cigarette lighters with a built in safety feature that makes it difficult for children to operate. Also, when using matches, be sure to close the cover before striking. Set a proper example and this sound fire safety practice will gradually become ingrained in youngsters minds

long before they are taught to use matches themselves.



Never leave matches or lighters in areas with a lot of fabrics or furnishings that can be ignited easily. Don't leave children alone with a burning candle, stove, campfire or fire-place.

When they're old enough to understand teach children to respect fire. With proper adult supervision, they can begin by lighting and blowing out birthday candles or putting a campfire dead out. Teach them to respect fire... to be careful, and **always** under proper adult supervision.