



# HOME FIRE SAFETY SURVEY

This form is designed to help you check your home for fire hazards. All the questions are worded so a "YES" answer means the area is safe. A "NO" answer means a fire hazard exists and needs to be corrected. If you have any questions about how to correct a hazard, call your local fire and rescue station or the Public Affairs and Life Safety Education Section at (703) 246-3801 or 711 (TTY) for assistance.

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## HEATING HAZARDS:

**YES**

**NO**

1. Combustibles like clothes, curtains, and furniture are away from stoves and heaters. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Heating appliances are tested every year. \_\_\_\_\_
3. There is a screen in front of the fireplace. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Ashes are emptied into covered metal containers. \_\_\_\_\_
5. All alternative heating devices used are U.L. listed. \_\_\_\_\_

## ELECTRICAL HAZARDS:

**YES**

**NO**

1. Electric cords are checked to be sure they are not worn, frayed, or damaged. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Extension cords are not run under rugs, over nails, through water, or across passageways. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Proper size fuses are used in all sockets. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Each circuit is properly marked. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Electrical outlets are not overloaded by multiple plug devices. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Electric appliances are not used near water. \_\_\_\_\_

## GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING HAZARDS:

**YES**

**NO**

1. Closets, basements, attics, and garage areas are clean of old paper, boxes, paint cans, and other trash. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Rubbish is thrown away regularly. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Everyone in the family knows NOT to use a flammable liquid, like gasoline, for cleaning. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Flammable liquids and oily rags are disposed of after use or stored in a tightly closed metal container. \_\_\_\_\_
5. All combustibles are stored a safe distance away from any possible heat source. (furnace, hot water heater) \_\_\_\_\_

-(OVER)-

**SMOKING HAZARDS:**

**YES**

**NO**

- 1. Matches and lighters are kept out of the reach of children.
- 2. Smokers use ashtrays that are large, deep, and designed for use with smoking materials.

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**KITCHEN HAZARDS:**

**YES**

**NO**

- 1. The kitchen is kept clean all the time.
- 2. The stove and oven are in good working condition.
- 3. The stove area is kept clean and free of grease.
- 4. Combustible materials (like towels and pot holders) are kept away from open flames and heat sources.
- 5. Someone is always in the kitchen when food is cooking.

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**GENERAL FIRE SAFETY:**

**YES**

**NO**

- 1. The house address is clearly posted in large numbers that are easy to read from the street.
- 2. There is a working smoke alarm near the sleeping areas.
- 3. There is a working smoke alarm on every level.
- 4. The smoke alarm is cleaned regularly and tested once a month.
- 5. You know the emergency telephone number for fire and rescue. (9-1-1 in Fairfax County)
- 6. This number is posted on all telephones for immediate reference.
- 7. You have portable fire extinguishers suitable for use in your home and family members know how to use them properly. (multi-purpose extinguishers are recommended)
- 8. You have a home escape plan and practice it regularly.

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If you have any "NO" answers, sit down with your family and discuss the problem and how it can be corrected. Take this opportunity to create fire safety awareness in ALL family members and, at the same time, make your home a safer place to live.