OCTOBER IS OUR FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

Providing Risk Management Solutions for the Seventh-day Adventist® Church

Fire Protection Begins at Home
Fires were once a serious threat to any urban population, and nearly every major city in the world has a Great Fire in its past. Enormous blazes have not only leveled cities, but also destroyed entire forests and killed untold numbers of people.

The city of Chicago’s own historic tragedy inspired the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to establish Fire Prevention Week (October 6-12, 2013) eight decades ago.

These days, we are better equipped to prevent catastrophic fires, and to suppress them quickly when they do occur. However, we each still have a responsibility to stay informed and plan ahead, protecting our families, church members and employees in the event of a fire.

...Continue Reading

Safety Webinar
November 13TH 2:30 pm ET

Supervision
Key to Successful Ministries

By Dr. William Chunestudy, D.M.A
Educational Resources Specialist at Adventist Risk Management®, Inc.

SPACE IS LIMITED
Reserve your Webinar Seat Now at:
https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/533047960

Did you know: The key to successful supervision is to review each activity, outing, or field trip and provide the best-qualified personnel possible, in ample numbers, to maintain the security of youth and to keep youth safe.
This webinar is a **key opportunity** to learn how you can integrate practical supervision methods and guidelines into your ministry.

**Title:** Supervision  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 13, 2013  
**Time:** 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM EST

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**HERE ARE SOME SAFETY TIPS, IN HONOR OF FIRE PREVENTION WEEK:**

*Electricity and Fires*

*Appliances*
Still hanging on to that hairdryer you’ve had since college, even though the cord is frayed, and it occasionally shocks you? It’s important to immediately replace anything with a broken or damaged cord, or anything that sparks, overheats, or gives off small shocks.

*Cords*

If your desk or TV center is a mass of tangled extension cords, it’s evaluation time. Overloaded, ungrounded (two-pronged) extension cords are fire hazards when used for long periods. Make sure your permanent extension cords are three-pronged with built-in breakers. Also make sure wiring does not run under the rugs, over nails, or across high traffic areas.

*Lights*

If a light switch shocks you when turned on, immediately shut it off and replace it. The same goes for flickering lights or any switches that are hot to the touch.

*Heaters*

Small heaters are lifesavers during cold weather, and they can save on heating bills too. However, make sure any heater you purchase has an automatic shutoff in case it falls over. Keep clothes, curtains, and other combustibles at least three feet from any heat source.

*Dryers*

We’ve probably all thrown a load of laundry in the dryer and headed out the door. Unfortunately, unattended laundry can be a significant fire hazard. Even when you’re home, make sure your lint filter is cleaned after every load, and regularly vacuum out the surrounding areas and behind the dryer to clean up any lint that escapes.

Other dryer safety tips:

- Install a smoke detector near your clothes dryer. About 40 percent of all residential dryers have no smoke detector nearby.
- Buy a household fire extinguisher. These should be serviced regularly.
• Make sure your dryer vents directly outdoors: your vent cover should open outside during operation. Check the vent periodically to make sure it isn’t clogged.
• Gas-operated dryers should be professionally inspected every year to make sure the gas lines are safe.
• Check your machines for exposed wiring or damaged power cords.
• Rigid, non-ribbed metal duct prevents fires more than coiled-wire foil or plastic venting.
• Never dry anything with foam rubber or plastic (e.g. bathroom rugs).
• Never dry anything that touched a flammable substance, such as cooking oils, gasoline, or alcohol. Hang those items to dry in a well-ventilated area.
• Read manufacturer labels carefully and avoid drying anything with a heat warning.

Candles

• Never let candles burn unattended.
• Place candles in sturdy, fireproof candleholders where they cannot be knocked over.
• Keep candles, matches, and lighters out of children's reach.
• Keep candles away from Christmas trees, evergreen clippings, decorations, presents, and wrapping paper.

Woodstoves and Fireplaces

• Make an appointment with a certified chimney sweep to clean and inspect your fireplace every year before use.
• Ashes go outdoors in a covered metal container, at least three feet away from flammable objects.
• Avoid flue fires: burn dry, well-seasoned wood.
• Buy a fireplace screen made of sturdy metal or heat-tempered glass. Use a child-guard screen if there are children in the house.

Smoke Detectors

Install smoke detectors and test them monthly. Change batteries every year and replace the entire unit every 10 years.

...To be Continued