



Fire Prevention Week

In a fire situation, every second counts. Seconds can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their daily lives erupt in tragedy.

That's why this year's Fire Prevention Week theme: "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" is so important. It reinforces why everyone needs to have an escape plan.

The annual Fire Prevention Week theme is selected by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), which uses national data of injuries and deaths from fire departments across the country. Each year's theme is intended so local fire departments can help keep their community safe by providing awareness and safety tips:

Here are key campaign messages that can help you and your family:

Make sure your address is visible from the road so emergency responders can locate your residence.

Draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.

Establish your meeting place for everyone to gather. Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

Practice your home fire exit plan. Practice using different ways out. All of your windows should open easily.

Test smoke detectors monthly by pushing the test button. Batteries should be changed twice a year, unless you have the new 10 year smoke detectors with a sealed battery.

Sleep with bedroom doors closed – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.

Practice safe cooking habits. NEVER put water on a grease fire. Keep a lid nearby when cooking.

If your clothes catch fire remember to Stop, Drop and Roll. NEVER run as this will only add oxygen to the fire making it much worse.

Visit your local fire station to ask questions or talk about your evacuation plan. Remember, seconds count. Practicing fire safety will minimize your chances of a fire emergency while helping prepare you and your family if an emergency event occurs.

CITY OF WATERTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT