



# Smoke Signals

## A Life Safety Newsletter

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### City of Dallas

#### Hot Weather Safety:

Remember these tips for staying cool outside and safe this summer:

- Drink plenty of water and avoid alcohol.
- Wear loose fitting, light weight, light colored clothing.
- Wear sunscreen and a wide brimmed hat.
- Do not leave children or pets in vehicles with windows up. Temperatures inside a closed vehicle can reach 140 degrees within minutes.
- Avoid going out during the hottest time of day. If you must work outdoors, take frequent breaks.



#### Does your home have a working smoke alarm?

If your home does not have a working smoke alarm, please call 3-1-1. Dallas Fire-Rescue will be glad to install a free smoke alarm for you!



#### What is Causing our Homes to Burn?

##### Electrical:

Still the leading cause of residential fires in Dallas. Remember not to use extension cords for permanent wiring and avoid overloading power strips and electrical plugs. Do not run electrical cords across doorways or under carpets. Many older homes are not properly wired for today's modern appliances so remember to be cautious in your use of electricity.

##### Unattended Cooking:

More home fires begin in the kitchen than in any other part of the home. Keep anything that can catch fire like oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains away from your stove top. If a pan fire begins on your stove, slide a lid over the top of the pan to suffocate the fire and turn off the burner. Get everyone out and call 9-1-1 immediately.

##### Improperly Discarded Smoking Materials:

Discard cigarettes, cigars and pipes safely and completely. Never drop smoking materials in a trash can or out the car window. Make sure your smoking materials are extinguished by running them under the water until they are cool to the touch. If you smoke, it is always best to smoke outside.

##### Combustibles too close to heat:

Summer heat sources include camp fires and grills. Properly extinguish all camp fires and keep a 3 foot clearance of combustibles from any heat source. Grilling on apartment balconies is prohibited unless the balcony has a sprinkler system and a 10 ft. clearance of combustibles is provided.

##### Children playing with fire:

Preschoolers and kindergartners are most likely to start fires by playing with matches and lighters... And are most likely to die in them. Never use matches or lighters as a source of amusement-children may imitate you. If you know of a juvenile who has shown tendencies to start fires, call 214-670-4312. Our Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program can help you. 10/11-59



#### Pool Safety:

Children ages 1 to 4 have the highest drowning rates. Among children 1 to 4 years old, almost 30% died from drowning. Drowning remains the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1 to 14 years. Keep your pool safe this summer with these tips:

- Pool barriers should be at least 4 ft. high with self closing, self latching gates that open outward, away from pool area.
- Teach children to never go near water without an adult.
- Keep toys away from the pool and out of site. Toys can attract children to the pool.
- Never leave children near pool without supervision.
- Enroll in Red Cross swim lessons and CPR courses.