

Fire Prevention Week: October 9-15, 2016

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Every October, Fire Prevention Week reminds us to assess our risks and make our homes safer. **Schools, fire departments, and community organizations promote fire awareness and prevention** during Fire Prevention Week. It is also a great time for families to take stock of their fire safety, prevention and [escape plan](#). October is the perfect time to focus on home fire awareness. According to the [National Fire Prevention Association](#), **most home fires are caused by heating, electrical, cooking or candle mishaps**. The cooler temperatures and longer nights result in staying inside more and using more appliances.

[Utah Flood Cleanup](#) are experts in disaster restoration. Our certified specialists repair smoke and fire damage. We know the lifesaving importance of fire prevention. A little prevention today, may save a precious life tomorrow.

What Is Fire Prevention Week?

[Fire Prevention Week](#) was founded in recognition of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. This devastating fire killed hundreds of people and left 100,000 people homeless. **Fire Prevention Week promotes fire safety awareness and prevention so we won't see another tragic fire like the Chicago Fire.**

Each year, a new theme is chosen. This year's theme is **"Check the Date! Replace Fire Alarms Every 10 Years."** We want to emphasize the importance of a working fire and smoke detector for each home.

For more information on local Fire Prevention Week activities, contact your local fire department. Parents who want to educate their children on fire safety can visit [Sparky the Fire Dog's](#) web page for **child-friendly Fire Prevention Week materials**.

Fire Safety Tips

According to the NFPA, **at least half of house fire-related deaths happen between 11 pm and 7 am, when people are typically asleep**. It is essential to have a responsive, working smoke and fire detector that will wake you from even the deepest sleep. Since more than half of these deaths happened in homes without a working smoke or fire alarm, a working fire alarm prevents many of these tragedies.

- A working fire and smoke alarm are essential. **Be sure to test your alarm at least once a month**, and to replace it at least once every ten years.
- Install smoke alarms on outside every bedroom and at least one each level of your home.
- **Plan your household's escape route.** Each family member should know a couple of routes from their bedroom as well as living areas in the house. According to the [American Red Cross](#), you may have as little as two minutes to escape. Practice your escape routes at least twice a year so everyone remembers the plan.
- **Agree on a designated meeting place outside the house** to ensure everyone is accounted for in case of evacuation.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen and **learn how to use it correctly**. Local fire departments often provide training.
- Never leave cooking food unattended. This is especially true when frying, grilling, or broiling. **Stay home while baking, boiling or roasting food and check it regularly.**
- Keep flammable items away from the kitchen stove, fireplaces, and heaters.
- Learn to **"Stop, Drop, and Roll"** and teach the technique to your family members. This can save a life if a family member's clothing ever catches on fire.

Utah Fire Damage Restoration Services

If your house catches on fire, the important thing is for everyone to get out. We hope Fire Prevention Week raises awareness to prevent house fires. However, **sometimes fires are unavoidable**. After the firefighters contain the fire, there may be significant damage. Utah Flood Cleanup specializes in [disaster restoration](#) including damage from [smoke and fire](#) for residents in the Ogden area. Call our disaster restoration professionals at 801-876-5225, or [contact us here](#) if your home is ever damaged by smoke or fire.