

# News Release

PREVENT • PROTECT • MITIGATE • RESPOND • RECOVER



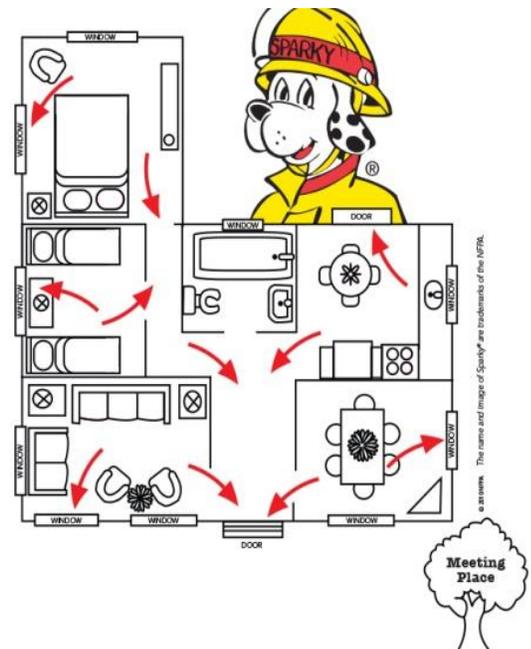
For Immediate Release  
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## October 8 – 14 is Fire Prevention Week



“Fires move fast! A few precious seconds may mean the difference between escaping a fire and death,” said Dale Lane, Director Shelby County Office of Preparedness. “During Fire Prevention Week meet with your family to create a fire safety plan.” Shelby County Fire Chief Alvin Benson also reminds everyone that complacency can kill. “Don’t put this off until later. Do this today and take it seriously. By practicing these important steps, you’ll be more prepared if a home fire happens in your future.” He said. The Shelby County Office of Preparedness, in partnership with the National Fire Protection Association, offers these fire safety tips:

1. **Ensure your house number is visible** from the street.
2. **Have working smoke alarms** on each floor (and inside and outside sleeping areas).
  - Test and clean smoke alarms monthly.
  - Replace batteries twice a year (or as needed).
  - Replace smoke alarms every 10 years.
3. **Have working carbon monoxide detectors** on every floor.
  - Follow maintenance procedures for smoke alarms.
4. **Have an “A B C” fire extinguisher** on each floor.
5. **Draw a map of your house:**
  - Include all windows and doors.
  - Designate 2 exits from each room with a path that leads to the outside.
  - Make sure all windows and doors will open and the escape paths are clear.
  - Install quick release devices on window and door security bars.
  - Choose an outside meeting place in the front of the house.
  - Teach children how to escape and call 9 1 1 (in case you are not home when there is a fire).
6. **When there is a fire:**
  - Call 9 1 1 (even if you are not sure of the size of the fire).
  - Drop to the ground. Crawl under the smoke to escape.
  - Close doors behind you as you leave.
  - Once you get outside, go to your meeting place. Stay outside!
7. **Practice family fire safety plans** twice a year - one drill with lights on and one with lights off.



Please share this video: “Know 2 Ways Out,” <https://youtu.be/Q1N8e8zk-8E>

Resource: Visit [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) for more information.

End of Release