

Home Fire Prevention Checklist

Follow this safety checklist to prevent fires in your home. If you have any questions on fire safety issues, please contact the Fire Prevention Officer by email thofsink@westlincoln.ca or phone 905-957-3346 ext.6731.

Safe and warm

- Keep heaters at least 3 feet from walls, sofas, and anything flammable.
- Make sure your chimney has been inspected in the past 12 months.
- Get a screen for your fireplace to catch sparks.
- Get your heating system serviced by a professional every 12 months.

Smoking materials

- Encourage smokers to smoke outside.
- Keep matches and lighters locked up and out of reach of children.
- Invest in large, deep, heavy ashtrays.

Hazardous materials

- Keep paint, gasoline and other flammable liquids stored away from flames and sparks.
- Store gasoline outside your home in a separate shed or garage.
- Keep your storage area free of oily rags, used paint, or varnish rags.

House wiring

- Have a professional inspect the tripping points of your fuses or breakers.
- Protect your bathroom and kitchen wall outlets with ground-fault circuit-interrupters (GFCIs).
- Invest in arc-fault circuit-interrupters (AFCIs).

Kitchen tips

- Stay in your kitchen at all times when using the stove.
- Keep your stovetop clear of grease, spills, and clutter.
- Turn pot handles towards the back of your stove.

Keeping your family safe from fire

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home and in each sleeping area.
- Test your smoke alarms once per month and replace batteries once per year.
- Make sure everyone in your home knows the sound of the smoke alarm.
- If someone in your family is deaf or hard of hearing, invest in alarms with flashing lights.
- If your smoke alarms are more than 10 years old, replace them.
- Develop a home fire escape plan, and practice it every six months.
- Consider installing an automatic fire sprinkler system in your home.