

Homes in Oregon are full of fire starting potential. Factor in clutter and the potential for fire increases. Now it becomes a dangerous place to live.



Housekeeping

A messy home is not a fire-safe home. Fires can start in chimneys and stove flues. Items piled in hallways can block or trip you and your family trying to flee a fire. The following are tips on ways to clean house with an eye toward fire safety ...

PREVENTION TIPS

Have chimneys or woodstove flues inspected and cleaned yearly by a qualified chimney sweep. Have chimneys checked for creosote deposits, soot build-up or physical damage.

Remove clutter from around the fireplace or woodstove. Store kindling, firelogs and wood at least three feet away from the heat source. Always use a fireplace screen.

Ashes from fireplaces, woodstoves, and barbecues retain heat for days after they appear out. Dispose of ashes in a metal container.

Fireplaces or woodstoves should not be used to burn garbage, greenery, wrapping paper or piles of newspapers.

Keep the clothes dryer's lint trap and outside vent line clean.

If you store gasoline or other flammable liquids in your garage, do so only in approved and labeled containers. Never store these liquids inside your home.

Keep newspapers, cardboard and trash at least three feet away from your furnace and water heater.

Keep your basement, garage, storerooms and attic free of rubbish, oily rags, old papers, mattresses and broken furniture.

If fire occurs in your home, you and your family need a clear escape route. Keep hallways and doorways clear of furniture, boxes and other clutter.

HOME FIRE SAFETY IS UP TO YOU!

A Message from the Oregon Life Safety Team: A Coalition of Fire Service, Community and Insurance Professionals