



FIRE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION
for
Township of The Archipelago



Fire Safety and Public Education Overview

The Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 requires that municipalities establish a program which must include public education with respect to fire safety.

Everyone has the responsibility to keep their families and homes safe from fire and carbon monoxide. The best ways to do this are to:

- prevent fires from starting;
- maintain working smoke alarms on every storey of your home and outside all sleeping areas to have as much time to safely escape as possible, if a fire does occur. Not only do smoke alarms save lives, they are required by law;
- plan and practice a home fire escape plan so everyone in the home knows exactly what to do should the smoke alarms sound in an emergency;
- have fuel-burning appliance serviced annually by certified service technicians and install and maintain working carbon monoxide alarms adjacent to each sleeping area,



SMOKE ALARMS



Only *working* smoke alarms can save your life!

Every home in Ontario must have a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas.

IT'S THE LAW.

Homeowners

It is the responsibility of homeowners to install and maintain smoke alarms on every storey of their home and outside sleeping areas.

Landlords

It is the responsibility of landlords to ensure their rental properties comply with the law.

Tenants

If you are a tenant of a rental property and do not have the required number of smoke alarms, contact your landlord immediately. It is against the law for tenants to remove the batteries or tamper with the alarm in any way.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE FIRE CODE SMOKE ALARM REQUIREMENTS COULD RESULT IN A TICKET FOR \$360 OR A FINE OF UP TO \$50,000 FOR INDIVIDUALS OR \$100,000 FOR CORPORATIONS.

- When installing smoke alarms, refer to the manufacturer's instructions for information about correct placement.
- Test your smoke alarms every month using the test button.
- Replace smoke alarm batteries at least once a year, and whenever the low-battery warning chirps.
- Smoke alarms don't last forever. They are required to be replaced within the time frame indicated by the manufacturer. This is usually ten years.
- When replacing interconnected smoke alarms, it is advisable to replace all units in the system at the same time. If you need to replace a single malfunctioning alarm, make sure the new alarm is compatible with the existing units.
- If your smoke alarm frequently activates when you're cooking, **DO NOT REMOVE THE BATTERY.** Consider moving the alarm to another location or replacing it with a photoelectric unit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SMOKE ALARMS, CONTACT YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management 2015
ontario.ca/firemarshal





CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

Beat the Silent Killer

Make sure **YOUR** household is safe from carbon monoxide poisoning.

Ensure all fuel-burning appliances and vents in your home are inspected annually. Find a registered contractor at **COsafety.ca**



Install and regularly test carbon monoxide alarms



of all carbon monoxide deaths and injuries in Ontario occur in homes



Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are similar to the flu without the fever

It is often referred to as The Silent Killer



No Odour



No Colour



No Taste

Many Ontario homes have on average **4-6 fuel-burning appliances** that produce carbon monoxide



Fireplace



Portable Fuel Heater



Dryer



Furnace



Stove



Water Heater



Portable Fuel Fired Generator



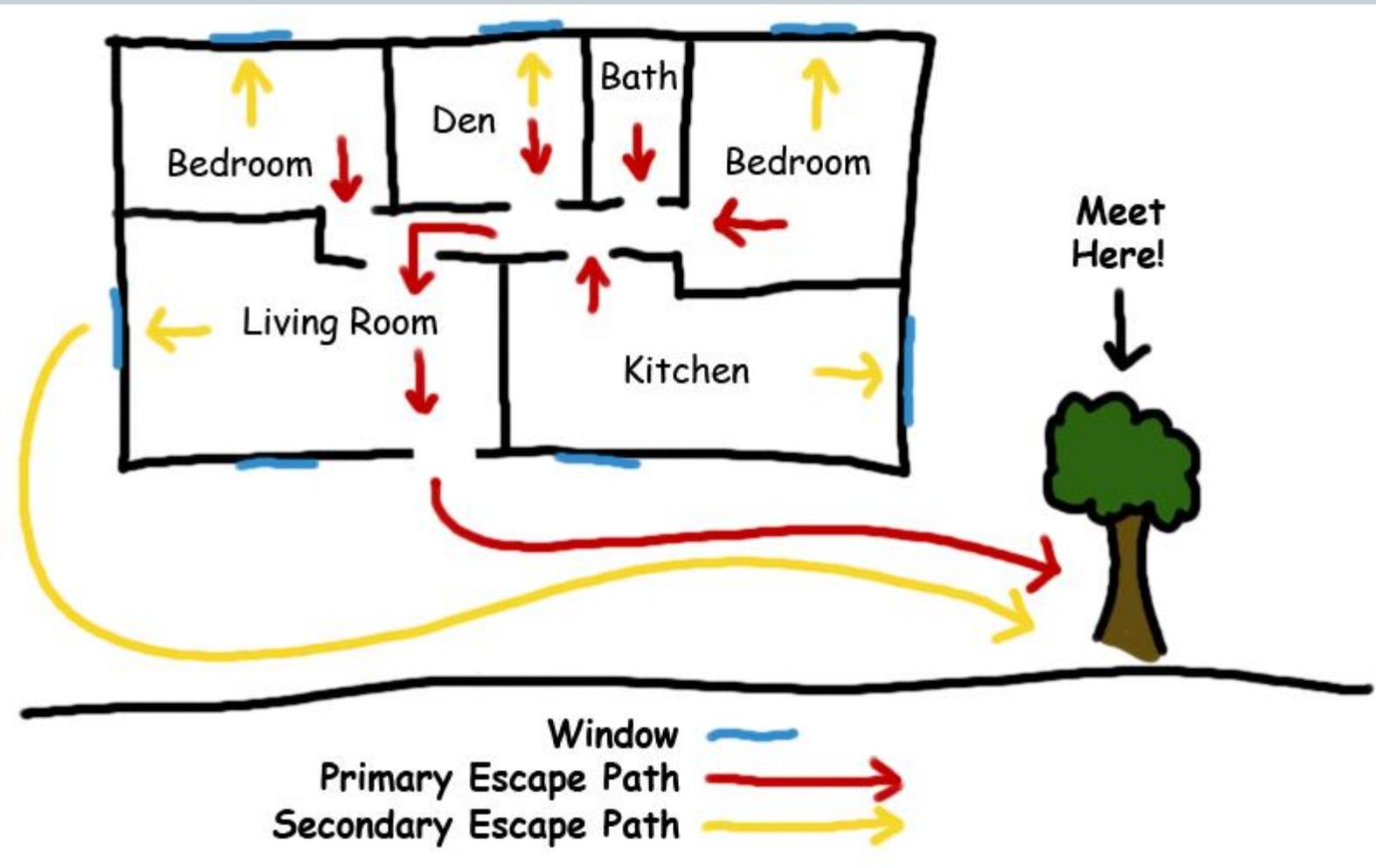
Develop a Home Escape Plan today... It could save your life tonight!

Install working smoke alarms on every storey and outside all sleeping areas of your home or cottage. **It's the law!**

- **Develop a home fire escape plan.** Sit down with everyone in your household and discuss how each person will get out of the home in a fire. Consider drawing a floor plan of your home, identifying all escape routes from each room.
- **Make sure everyone knows two ways out of each room, if possible.** If the door of a room is blocked by smoke or fire, discuss an alternate escape route such as a window.
- **Help those who need it!** Determine who will be responsible for helping young children, older adults, people with disabilities or anyone else who may need assistance.
- **Get low and go** under the smoke to the nearest safe exit. Most fire deaths are the result of smoke inhalation.
- **Choose a meeting place outside,** a safe distance from your home. A tree, street light or a neighbour's home are all good choices. In case of a fire, everyone should go directly to this meeting place to be accounted for.
- **Never re-enter a burning building.** Once you have safely escaped, call 911 from outside your home using a cell phone or from a neighbour's phone.
- **Practice your escape plan** with everyone in your home. Make sure everyone can get out quickly.



PRACTICE YOUR ESCAPE PLAN





Home & Cottage Fire Safety Tips

To minimize the risk of fire and burn injury, follow these simple cottage fire safety tips:

- Install smoke alarms on every storey and outside all sleeping areas. It's the law for all Ontario homes, cottages, cabins and seasonal homes to have working smoke alarms on every storey and outside all sleeping areas.
- Test smoke alarms at least monthly or each time you return to the cottage. Pack a new smoke alarm and extra smoke alarm batteries in case they need replacement.
- Install and ensure carbon monoxide alarms in your cottage if it has a fuel-burning appliance.
- Develop and practice a home fire escape plan to ensure everyone knows what to do if the smoke alarm sounds.
- Clean barbecues before using them. Keep an eye on lit barbecues and ensure all combustibles, as well as children and pets are kept well away from them. Fires can happen when barbecues are left unattended.
- Keep barbecue lighters and matches out of sight and reach of children.
- Remember to bring a flashlight with extra batteries.
- Check heating appliances and chimneys before using them.
- Check with the Township to determine whether open air burning is permitted before having a campfire or burning brush. Visit www.thearchipelago.on.ca for current Fire Ratings and Open Burning Regulations.
- If you must smoke, do so outside. Keep a large can with water nearby so cigarette butts can be safely discarded. If you drink, do so responsibly. Tobacco use and excessive alcohol consumption are contributing factors in many fires and can lead to serious injuries.
- Burn candles in sturdy candleholders that will not tip and are covered with a glass shade. When you go out, blow out!

For more information visit www.thearchipelago.on.ca and follow us on Twitter @ArchipelagoTwp



Facts about Fire Extinguishers

- Consider purchasing an extinguisher that has an ABC rating. This type can be used on most types of fires.
- Only use an extinguisher if you have learned how to do so. Remember the **PASS**: **Pull** the pin; **Aim** the nozzle at the base of the fire; **Squeeze** the trigger; **Sweep** the extinguisher from side to side until it is empty.
- Store the extinguisher in plain view, out of reach of children and away from stoves and heating appliances.
- Fire extinguishers should be used **ONLY** on small, contained fires. Never let the fire get between you and the exit.
- Most fire extinguishers empty in less than 30 seconds. If the fire is not out by then, leave the premises immediately and call 911.
- Many stovetop fires can be safely extinguished without the use of a fire extinguisher. Slide a lid over the pot to smother the flames and turn off the stove.



Open Burning



Outdoor Burning & Fire Safety Guidelines

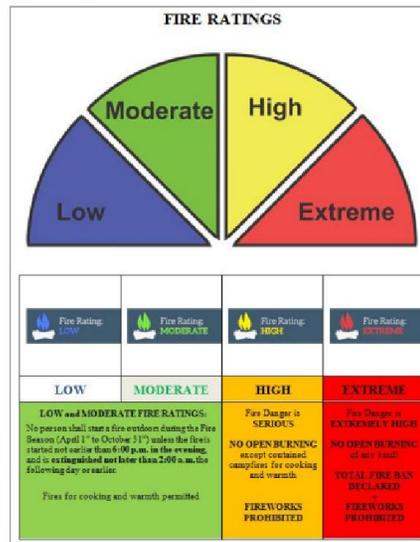
For
"OPEN" FIRES for the burning of clean wood & **"RECREATIONAL" FIRES** for enjoyment or cooking.

- *See **By-law 2017-21 for complete regulations** on outdoor burning and clarification of the following information:
- "OPEN" FIRE regulations include size limits (2M x 2M) for burning clean wood/yard debris and must be a minimum of 10M away from any structures or combustible materials.
 - "RECREATIONAL" FIRES must be no larger than 1M x 1M should have a non-combustible base under it and a containment ring of metal or stones if possible. The location must be 5M away from all combustible materials.

The following are **GENERAL PROHIBITIONS** for Outdoor Burning:

- NO setting fires during High or Extreme Fire Danger Ratings (see image to right) and always check the current rating at www.thearchipelago.on.ca
- Under favourable conditions fires may be started no earlier than 6pm and must be extinguished before 2am.
- ALL permitted outdoor fires MUST be under the care & control of a competent person at all times.
- ALL fires must have adequate control / suppression devices immediately available.
- ALL fires must be clear of combustible material as per the by-law regulations.
- ALWAYS consider the potential hazards such as wind, drifting smoke and sparks.
- Only burn clean/acceptable materials.

Persons who initiate a fire AND the property owner (even if not on-site) can be charged for violations of By-law 2017-21. Persons can ALSO be held liable for ALL costs related to the investigation of a violation AND costs related to containing /suppressing a fire which is illegal or has spread!



PLEASE ENSURE BOTH YOU & YOUR GUESTS FOLLOW THE RULES!

For more information: Visit our By-law section on the website: www.thearchipelago.on.ca
 Contact By-law department staff at 705.746.4243 Ext. 325 or email fire@vianet.ca



Key Messages:

The following are guidelines for the **SAFE USE** of OPEN FIRES:

- ✓ **CHECK** the Fire Rating status (available on-line at www.thearchipelago.on.ca) and also be mindful of wind direction to ensure fire does NOT drift towards a combustible area or present a risk to driving/navigation.
 - If quite windy, please consider delaying your burning to another day.
- ✓ **Build** fires on bare soil or exposed rock, well sheltered from the wind. Keep a pail of water and a shovel on hand to control the fire.
- ✓ **Appoint** a competent person to be in charge. Fires should never be left unattended and must be thoroughly extinguished before leaving the site.
- ✓ **Douse** fires with water and stir the ashes with a stick or shovel to allow the water to soak in and cool both the ashes and ground.

Fact Wildfires destroy an average of 200,000 hectares of forested land each year in Ontario !

Please remember that the geography & abundance of vegetation within our Township increases our risk exposure to the reality of fires spread rapidly.

Outdoor Burning regulations are in place and enforced in order to prevent wildfires and damage to personal property. Fires can be extremely dangerous and each year a number of preventable fires occur from improper use and handling. **Don't become a statistic – Become Safety Conscious!**

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Fireworks



FIREWORKS Information & Safety Guidelines

For
Consumer (family style) Fireworks

*See **By-law 2017-20 for complete regulations** regarding the usage of fireworks and clarification of the following information:

- "CONSUMER FIREWORKS" means an outdoor, low hazard, recreational firework. *Consumer class includes those fireworks which are generally available at various retail stores.*

Fireworks regulations are in place and enforced in part to prevent wildfires and damage to personal property. Fires can be extremely dangerous and each year a number of preventable fires occur from improper use and handling.

The following are GENERAL PROHIBITIONS for the setting of fireworks:

- No person shall set off fireworks on any day or days during the year, except on Victoria Day, Canada Day, Independence Day (US), and the one day immediately preceding and/or following each of these days.
- NO setting off fireworks when there is a Fire Ban in effect or the Fire Danger Rating is HIGH or EXTREME, wherein no open air burning is permitted. Always check the current rating at <http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/>
- Subject to the above, no person shall set off any fireworks except between 6pm and 11pm of the same day.
- ALL permitted firework displays MUST be under the care & control of a competent person at all times.
- ALL firework displays must be in accordance with recognized safety procedures, including, but not limited to:
 - Keeping spectators at a safe distance;
 - Protecting private and public property; and
 - Ensuring suitable fire extinguishing equipment is available at all times.

In addition, no person shall discharge, fire, set off, or cause to be set off any Firecrackers or Sky Lanterns within the Township of The Archipelago.

Note: Persons who set off fireworks AND the property owner (even if not on-site) can be charged for violations of By-law 2017-20. Persons can ALSO be held liable for ALL costs related to the investigation of a violation AND costs related to containing /suppressing a fire which is deemed to have started through negligence of this By-law.

PLEASE ENSURE BOTH YOU & YOUR GUESTS FOLLOW THE RULES!

For more information: Visit our By-law section on the website: www.thearchipelago.on.ca
Contact By-law department staff at 705.746.4243 Ext. 325 or email fire@vianet.ca



Key Messages:

During a display of Fireworks it is vital that you should always:

- ✓ Appoint a "responsible person -18 or older" to be in charge.
- ✓ Check wind direction, to ensure residue does NOT drift towards a combustibles area
- ✓ If quite windy, please consider delaying
- ✓ If locally possible, discharge Fireworks out over open water.
- ✓ Carefully read & follow the directions on the label(s)
- ✓ Keep onlookers a safe distance from ignition and falling debris sectors.
- ✓ Only set off 1 Fireworks item at a time. Multiple ignitions at the same time increase risks!
- ✓ Keep "Sparklers" away from young children. They can Burn Skin, Cause Blindness.
 - The sparkler wire STAYS HOT for many minutes, use caution always!
 - If someone gets burned, carefully pour cool water over the area. If there is any sign of burns or swelling, seek medical aid. DO NOT rub the affected area(s).
- ✓ After display is finished, with a flashlight, fully check for smouldering in all areas where the falling debris may have landed.
- ✓ Remove all waste when finished and dispose of through general waste streams.

Fact

Did you know? There are three types of fireworks listed on the Natural Resources Canada website. These are:

- "Consumer Fireworks" are Low-Hazard fireworks for public, recreational use.
- "Display Fireworks" are high-hazard fireworks, used only by licensed professionals.
- "Pyrotechnics Special Effects" are high-hazard fireworks for use by licensed professionals.

Fireworks can be extremely dangerous and each year, a number of preventable injuries and fires occur from improper use and handling. **Don't become a statistic – Become Safety Conscious!**

Please remember that the geography & abundance of vegetation within our Township increases our risk exposure to the reality of fires spread rapidly.

Fact

Wildfires destroy an average of 200,000 hectares of forested land each year in Ontario



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Fire Ratings

Within the Township of The Archipelago, Fire Hazard Ratings must be strictly followed. Signs declaring the current hazard rating are posted at several visible locations throughout the Township. You can also find it on the home page of the Township of The Archipelago Website at www.thearchipelago.on.ca, on our Facebook page and on Twitter [@ArchipelagoTwp](https://twitter.com/ArchipelagoTwp)

FIRE RATING	FIRE RATING	FIRE RATING	FIRE RATING
			
Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
<p>LOW and MODERATE FIRE RATINGS:</p> <p>No person shall start a fire outdoors during the Fire Season (April 1st to October 31st) unless the fire is started not earlier than 6:00 p.m. in the evening, and is extinguished not later than 2:00 a.m. the following day or earlier.</p> <p>Fire for cooking and warmth permitted</p>		<p>Fire Danger is SERIOUS</p> <p>NO OPEN BURNING except contained campfires for cooking and warmth</p> <p>FIREWORKS PROHIBITED</p>	<p>Fire Danger is EXTREMELY HIGH</p> <p>NO OPEN BURNING of any kind!</p> <p>TOTAL FIRE BAN DECLARED</p> <p>+ FIREWORKS PROHIBITED</p>

If you see or are aware of someone violating the fire ban, please contact the By-law Enforcement Department Phone (705)746-4243 ext. 325 or after hours, please call 705 774-3630.



HOW TO REPORT A FOREST FIRE

To report a forest fire, call the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) **310-FIRE (310-3473)**. No area code needed. Leave a message if you get an answering machine. They will need to speak to YOU and require you to provide more details. The operator will prefer to speak with a first-hand witness to gather important information – remember they are trying to assess and coordinate a response (probably by air) and details are important.

Thank you!

Questions.