**July**

**Week 1- Safety in Places of Public Assembly:**

People entering any public assembly building (including but not limited to restaurants, movie theaters, nightclubs, and auditoriums) need to be prepared in case of an emergency.

Before you enter assure the building is in a condition that makes you feel comfortable. Check to make sure the main entrance is easily accessible and the surroundings of the building are clear from materials blocking doors or exits. Make sure whomever you’re with is able to contact you and meet back up with you somewhere outside if any disaster were to happen.

When you enter locate all exits and be prepared to use the one closest to you. Make sure the path to the closest exit is clear and the building isn’t overcrowded.

**Week 2- Matches and Lighters:**

The main cause of match and lighter fires are children getting ahold of them. This comes with a sometimes-deadly outcome. Most kids don’t realize the true danger of fire. If for any reason you ever feel like your child is purposely setting fires or is unusually fascinated, please get them help. Help can be received from your local fire department, school, or a community counseling agency can put you I touch with trained experts to teach your child about fire in an appropriate way. If your local fire department doesn’t have a trained Juvenile Firesetting Intervention Specialist, please contact the State Fire Marshal’s Office for resources.

Minor questions from your child such as how hot is fire or showing in interest in fire trucks or a play cook stove shouldn’t be worrisome. This is healthy, but this does indicate it is time to educate them about fire and fire safety.

Fire-starting happens when children are left alone, even for a short period of time, with access to matches or lighters. Parents should set clear rules and consequences about fire misuse. One way to prevent your child from starting a fire, accidental or intentional, is to store matches and lighters out of children’s reach and sight, preferably in a locked cabinet or container. Never leave matches or lighters in a room a child might go in without supervision. It is also a good idea to teach young children to tell an adult if they see matches or lighters anywhere.

**Week 3- Stop, Drop, and Roll:**

“Stop, drop, and roll” has been one of the most recognizable fire safety messages for decades, but a common mistake, especially for children, is that it should be used in every fire situation. This is why it is not recommended to teach stop, drop, and roll along with home fire escape planning,; the message might get confused. Stop, drop, and roll should only be used if your clothing or body is on fire. If the fire is in a building, it needs to be known that getting out fast and staying out is the priority.

It is still important to know, if your clothes or body catch on fire: Stop immediately. Drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands. Roll back and forth until the fire is out. (If you cannot stop, drop, and roll, a towel or blanket can be used to smother the flames. If you use a wheelchair, scooter, or other device and are able to get to the floor make sure to lock the device so it will stay in place before getting on the ground to roll.) Immediately remove loose clothing or clothing with elastic bands, belts, and jewelry. Treat a burn right away by putting it in cool water for 3 to 5 minutes. Then cover with a clean dry cloth. NO cream, ointments, sprays, or any other home remedies should be applied. Immediately call 9-1-1 or the fire department for medical help.

To prevent clothing from catching on fire; wear short, close fitting, or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking or grilling. Teach younger children to tell a grownup when they find any lighters or matches and to never touch them. Also, make sure to have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet around fireplaces, candles, grills, stoves, or any other heat source.

**Week 4- Fall and Fire Safety for Older Adults:**

Knowing what to do in the event of a fire is particularly important for older adults. At age 65, people are twice as likely to be killed or injured by fires compared to the whole population.

Fire safety tips’ pertaining to smoking includes smoking outside, wetting butts and ashes before throwing them out or bury them in sand, and never smoking around medical oxygen. As for space heaters, make sure to keep them at least 3 feet away from anything that can burn. Make sure they’re unplugged when you leave or go to be, not just turned off. When they are plugged in, make sure it’s directly plugged into a wall socket, and not an extension cord or power strip.

Make sure you stay around food when you’re cooking. Stop, drop, and roll if your clothes catch on fire. Always remember smoke alarms save lives. Make sure to plan your escape from fire and smoke with any disabilities you may have in mind as you plan.

Fall prevention tips include exercising regularly, taking your time when moving around. Keep all stairs and walk ways clear, improve lighting in and around your home, use no-slip mats, and wear sturdy well-fitting shoes.