



# Fall Branch Volunteer Fire Department

*We Serve to Save!*

Chief: Jim Dawson

Public Information Officer: Myron Hughes

## Home Fire Inspection Checklist

This checklist identifies a number of ways you can make your house more fire safe, but should not be considered the best document available. We strongly encourage you to do more research into things you can do to make your home safer. If you find some you think we should include here, let us know!

### Kitchen

- The cooking area, including on top of the stove and in the oven, is free from all items that can burn.
- Pots on the stove are not left unattended while cooking.
- Small appliances are unplugged when not in use
- The oven is never used to heat the home.
- Cooking vents are cleaned per manufacturer's directions.
- Charcoal and gas grills are only used outdoors and at least 15 feet from the home, deck or garage.

### Smoking

- House rules include not smoking in bed or while lying down.
- Ashtrays are large, deep and kept away from any items that can burn.
- Matches and lighters are stored in a secure cabinet

### Heating

- Baseboard heaters do not touch any furniture, curtains or other items stored on the floor.
- Chimneys and heating systems are inspected, cleaned and repaired annually prior to the heating season.
- The area around the furnace is clear of all items that can burn.
- All portable heaters are placed at least three feet from furniture, walls or bedding.
- Portable heaters are plugged directly into wall outlets and turned off when you leave the room.
- Every fireplace is equipped with a sturdy metal screen.

### Electrical & Appliances

- Extension cords are not used as permanent wiring.
- Extension cords used are not tacked to walls, run under rugs, or through doorways.
- Safety covers are present on all outlets if small children are present.
- Appliances are plugged directly into wall outlets.
- Clothes dryer lint filter and venting system are clean.

**Fire is Everyone's Fight™**

106 Ruritan Road, Fall Branch, TN, 37656 | (423) 348-7171 –station | (423) 348-6871 – fax  
fbvfd@fallbranchvfd.org | www.fallbranchvfd.org



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## Throughout the Home

- Matches and lighters are kept out of reach of children in a secure place.
- Flammable liquids, if stored in the home, are in limited quantity and in a cool place.
- Ashes from fireplaces and barbecues are only disposed of in metal containers.
- Candles are placed in sturdy holders away from children, pets or things that can burn.
- Candles are extinguished before leaving the room or going to bed.

## Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Smoke alarms are installed on every level of the home and in every bedroom.
- Smoke alarms are tested monthly and vacuumed regularly.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are located on every level of the home.
- Alarm batteries are changed twice a year, unless equipped with a 10-year lithium battery.
- All alarms are less than 10 years old.

## Outside the Home

- Outside electrical receptacles are GFCI and they are in good working condition.
- There is no trash, brush or tree trimming accumulation on the property.
- Grills are only used outdoors.
- Swimming pool or hot tub is enclosed by a four-sided fence and locked gate. Filter, heater or hot tub is properly grounded.

## Escape Plan

- You have a plan of escape showing two ways out of every room and an outside family meeting place.
- You regularly practice your escape plan by having fire drills with everyone in your home.
- Your house numbers are clearly visible from the street.
- Fire extinguishers are rated at least 2A:10B and only considered for use by adults on small fires after calling 911.

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