March 2017
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*YFPI-specific content

Remembering When™
A Fire and Fall Prevention Program for Older Adults

Brooklyn Center Fire Department
6250 Brooklyn Boulevard, Brooklyn Center
Monday, April 10, 2017
10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Free training

Would you like to...
- Learn about a nationally recognized fire and fall prevention program for older adults in your community?
- Help older adults live safely at home longer?
- Connect with other professionals working to improve quality of life for older adults?

About the program
NFPA Remembering When is a fire and fall prevention program targeted to older adults with the goal of helping them live safely at home for as long as possible. Members of the local fire department and home visiting professionals and volunteers deliver the program through group presentations and home visits.

Training
One-day training workshop: On Monday, April 10, NFPA and state trainers will provide an overview of the Remembering When program. Participants will leave the training with a firm grasp of program components, the ability to access the free program online, and resources to explore the possibility of program implementation.
Changing American Family at Risk

FEMA is offering a National Fire Academy course, Changing American Family at Risk (N0348), in Minnesota.

**Course dates:** July 31-Aug. 5, 2017  
**Location:** Camp Ripley  
**Cost:** Meals and lodging at Camp Ripley if needed ($7.75 per meal and $30 per night)

This six-day course emphasizes the strategies for reaching America’s families to protect them from fire. It is less about the families themselves and more about safety strategies at the neighborhood level. Students learn behavioral change from a family-based, neighborhood perspective.

The course teaches approaches to create positive fire safety interventions for the individual and the family. Students engage in new strategies for establishing positive relationships that lead to behavioral change. The course also presents future strategies to create sustainable change in the neighborhood, resulting in a reduction of the fire problem.

Course material is focused on the following six content areas:

1. Changing Family in America — understanding of America’s changing communities, neighborhoods and family demographics, and how they may contribute to fire risk.
2. Fire and Human Behavior — analyzing a fire event (by stages) to identify primary prevention interventions.
3. Social Marketing — valuing the potential for social marketing to create positive fire safety change; the four P’s of social marketing.
4. Establishing Relationships with the Family — developing strategies for establishing positive relationships with families in a neighborhood; community equity and organizational equity.
5. Promoting Behavioral Change — developing strategies to elicit behavioral change; the ABC Model for root cause; windows of opportunity.
6. When Behavioral Change Is not Enough — given fire problem in a neighborhood, developing sustainable change strategies to reduce risk; local, state and federal resources; involvement of organizational leader.

State Fire Marshal Conference

The Sixth Annual Minnesota State Fire Marshal Conference is scheduled for April 11 and 12, 2017, at the Ramada Plaza in Minneapolis. There is an exciting lineup of presenters from across the country on fire and life safety, fire protection systems, fire investigations and fire prevention topics.

We encourage you to register as soon as possible, because space is limited for some of the sessions. This year we are asking for attendees to select a first and second choice so we can plan for the proper size rooms for each session.

Even if you are still processing the payment, we encourage you to register early to reserve your spot at this conference.

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin McGinty at 651-201-7219 or kevin.mcginty@state.mn.us. Special thanks to a grant from the Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education (MBFTE) to help provide this conference at a reduced price for the attendees.
Be sure to check out the collection of videos on the Vision 20/20 YouTube channel! They have posted all of the ones used in the Home Safety Visit app (four videos in seven languages) along with a collection of others they've have been producing over the years. They're also adding closed-captioning to them to make them accessible for everyone to use. You can stream them or embed them on your website.

And subscribe to the channel so you can get notified whenever they upload a new video.

Fire alarms and at-risk populations

In February of 2017 NFPA released a report titled Fire Alarms and At-Risk Populations. The Fire Protection Research Foundation conducted a literature review to determine what information could be found on the topic of fire alarm notification signals on individuals with sound and light sensativities. The review found that information was very limited on the topic and that the NFPA 72 technical committee needed more technical information to address this issue. This project gathered information on how fire alarm notification signals affect high-risk populations by interviewing experts such as teachers and therapists. The report can be found on the NFPA website.
NFPA updates

News releases
- March/April issue of NFPA Journal explores protection challenges for emerging building types, focusing on industrial and storage occupancies.

NFPA Today blog
- Thirty-five girls perish in a locked area of a Guatemala shelter for poor and abused children.
- Three tips to help college students studying overseas stay fire safe.
- #101 Wednesdays: NFPA 101 and the board and care fire problem.
- Can you name the deficiency? Take our quiz, test your knowledge of the use of NFPA 80 and swinging fire doors.
- Home fire claims six family members ranging in age from four to 38.
- NFPA and Domino’s Pizza team up to remind you to change your smoke alarm batteries when you change your clocks.
- Something fishy: New burn treatment uses tilapia skin.

Conference & Expo blog
- NFPA to host First Responder Technology Challenge at NFPA Conference & Expo this June.
- Still time to save on NFPA Conference & Expo registration.

Safety information
- In March’s issue of Safety Source: new tornado safety tip sheet, Educator of the Year announced and more.
- How the Academy Award-winning movie, "Manchester by the Sea," humanizes the painful realities of home fires.
- Oily rags at the center of recent spontaneous fire at museum.

Fire sprinkler initiative
- Register today for educational summit on home fire sprinklers.
- Connecticut Fire Sprinkler Coalition puts Bringing Safety Home Grant to good use.

Wildfire safety
- Wildland Fire Fighter Fatality Surveillance Part 2.
- Widespread drought, wind conditions fuel wildfires across Plains states, southeast.
- Wildland firefighters: A view from the sky.
- March 3 is the last day to apply for your opportunity to receive $500 to complete a wildfire preparedness project.

Update newsletter
- Different by Design: The look and function of modern buildings are being shaped by a host of influences, but these bold new structures can also present unique fire and life safety challenges.

Safety Source newsletter
- Wish happy birthday to Sparky with free app! Sparky the Fire Dog® turns 66 on March 18, 2017. Help him celebrate by sharing with kids “Sparky's Birthday Surprise,” a free app from Sparky School House, which is jam packed with games, activities, coloring pages and a sing-along.

Research
Home safety visits

Fire departments around the country have found that the home safety visit is an effective tool to reduce fire injuries and deaths in their communities. Although the home safety visit may look different in each community, the idea of helping people look for common household hazards and teaching them how to mitigate them will remain the same. Many fire departments choose to include smoke alarm installation in their home safety visits as a means to be invited into the home. There are many benefits to a department to adopt the practice of home safety visits, including increasing residents’ fire safety knowledge, positive public relations for the fire department, firefighter safety and increased numbers of working smoke alarms in the community.

Generally, a home safety visit will begin with the offer to install working smoke alarms in homes. Once the fire department and its volunteers are invited into the home, there is an opportunity to discuss other safety topics. This can range from discussing the top causes of fire and how to prevent them up to a full walk-through of the home to teach the homeowner ways to keep themselves safe from fire.

We have some excellent model programs happening right here in Minnesota. In order to help other departments develop, expand or improve their programs, we are looking for departments to share information about their home safety visit programs.

Smoke alarms in the media

Recently “Good Morning America” and the “Today Show” each aired a special on smoke alarms. It’s always good to keep up to date on how the media is talking about smoke alarms and fire safety.

On the “Today Show,” the topic was space heater safety. On the February 14, 2017 segment, St. Paul Fire Investigator Jaime Novak got a vacant house to burn, set up a space heater demonstration and contributed his knowledge to the memorable segment.

The segment of “Good Morning America” focused on warning parents on the risk of children not waking up for a smoke alarm. Although this is not a new story, it is important for families to think about the fire escape plan and how they will respond in the case of a fire in the home. The full story is available on the ABC news website.

Campus Firewatch

The latest issue of Campus Firewatch is out! In this edition...

- Fatal fire, Portland Oregon.
- How to use social media effectively.
- Student safety in Amherst, Mass.
- Fire safety for students with disabilities.
- Campus fire safety grant legislation introduced in Congress.

...and more!

You can receive Campus Firewatch four times a year by clicking here to subscribe.
Sarah Mann is the Hennepin County Youth Fire Intervention Team program manager. She has been instrumental in promoting the program throughout the courts and law enforcement professions. She spends countless hours making sure that kids who start fires and their families are safe.

She shared the following text message conversation as an example of what she does and how she communicates with the families that she is working with. This particular family was very reluctant to go through the program, but in the end learned a lot from it. If you get a chance, please thank Sarah for all that she does for YFIT!

**Sarah’s texts**

Hi Julia,
Since it has been a couple days do you have any questions? Tomorrow I will be emailing the smoke alarm information. Thank you

**Mom’s texts**

Hey, Sara...not at this time, we will be looking at our fire alarms on Sunday and helpfully get an order into Amazon. I appreciate the time and the information you gave to us, we learned a lot that night. Awesome, I will watch for it.

I found them on Amazon complete with price and everything. If you have any questions while shopping feel free to text me with any questions so we make sure and get what will be best for your family.

Thanks because I am sure I will have questions. I have never shopped for alarms before, this will be a new experience

I’m here for ya. Thanks for letting this happen. These life skills are so important for you and your son.

Absolutely. I am looking forward to doing this with him.

Proud of you both.

It’s amazing how much I coach and train on safety at my store and yet at home it’s not the same expectation...eye opening

I believe that as well. I just said that to a school I taught today...they do fire drills at the school but not at home...it was cute to see the kids process that.

Yeah talk about a light bulb...like DUH LOL