

Minnesota Department of Public Safety State Fire Marshal Division

Youth Fire Intervention

About

Kids are naturally curious about fire. When they misuse fire, it is a problem.

Children who start fires do so for a reason. We are not seeing many "curiosity" fire-setters these days. The behavior is a cry for help, often a response to bullying, a chaotic home life, abuse or neglect. Some children who start fires have an undiagnosed behavioral issue.

Without intervention, 36 percent will continue to start fires. With intervention, fewer than 3 percent will continue.

Fire-setting is a gateway crime; a child whose needs are not met is likely to continue starting fires or become involved in more violent crime.



How we can help

The Minnesota Youth Fire Intervention team can help. All you need to do is call 651-649-5451 and the Minnesota State Duty Officer will deploy the team.

The team will meet with the family and determine their needs. The team consists of youth fire intervention specialists from fire service, mental health, juvenile justice and social service professionals.

For more information

Contact either of our public educators for more information and resources.

- Bob Reif (north)
 - 651-201-7206 or robert.reif@state.mn.us.
- Kathi Osmonson (south)
 - 651-201-7220 or kathi.osmonson@state.mn.us



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Fire Prevention Education

About

Fire prevention is the best way to prevent firefighter injuries, PTSD, cancer and death.

We know that is not what you signed up to do in this job; fighting fire seems more glamorous. However, preventing fires saves more lives and property than fighting a preventable fire.

The State Fire Marshal Division is here to help.

Our two fire and life safety educators have more than 35 years of combined experience and are at your disposal. They can help you develop a community risk reduction plan, teach fire prevention education at your recruit academies or regional meetings, help develop curriculum, help write press releases, and help you plan events.



Be the real hero in town and prevent the outbreak of fire in your service area.

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