

HEAT SENSE

- ◆ Keep space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn. Buy space heaters with automatic shut-off switches. Turn off portable space heaters before falling asleep or when leaving a room. Supervise children and pets when space heaters are operating.
- ◆ Never leave a lit candle unattended. Blow out candles when you leave the room or go to sleep.
- ◆ Store all matches and lighters out of reach of children.
- ◆ Keep gasoline, charcoal lighter and other flammable liquids locked in an outdoor shed. Never store items under your mobile home.
- ◆ Store firewood away from your home and keep trash and other flammable debris cleaned up.
- ◆ Do not allow newspapers, magazines and other combustible items to accumulate.
- ◆ Make certain all exits are clear and easy to reach. Check that all doors and windows open easily.
- ◆ Make sure that your mobile home or lot is clearly marked. The Fire department will need to be able to see the numbers in the event of any emergency.

In the Event of Fire

In the unfortunate event of a fire, don't delay.
Take immediate action.

- ◆ If there is a fire, get out quickly. Do not attempt to take anything with you.
- ◆ Stay low, crawling on the floor under the smoke to avoid toxic gases and super-heated air.
- ◆ If your clothes catch fire, **DON'T RUN**. Stop, drop to the ground, cover your face with your hands to protect your face and lungs, and roll until you smother the flames. **REMEMBER: STOP-DROP-AND ROLL.**
- ◆ Call **911** from a neighbor's home. **NEVER** go back into any burning structure.

FACTS

- ◆ **Smoke alarms are missing in half of all mobile home fires.**
- ◆ **Electrical distribution equipment is the number one cause of mobile home fires.**
- ◆ **Other significant causes of fires in mobile homes are heating equipment, intentionally set fires and cooking equipment.**

For Your Safety:

The Grand Island Fire Department will install smoke detectors in mobile homes **FREE OF CHARGE**.

If you live in a mobile home without smoke detectors installed or if the smoke detectors in your mobile home do not work, call your local fire station and they will make arrangements to have new smoke detectors installed. **Don't delay do it today.**

Grand Island Fire Department

Mobile Home Fire Safety Tips



FIRE SAFETY
We all take part

FIRE SAFETY

If buying or renting a manufactured home is in your future, make sure you keep fire safety in mind.

Three times as many people die in mobile home fires, proportionately, than in single and two-family home fires. For every 1,000 fires that break out, 21 victims will die in mobile homes while fewer than seven will die in single or two-family dwellings.

The primary cause of the problem is that fire spreads rapidly through mobile home contents, while the structure itself intensifies heat and smoke buildup. In addition, most mobile homes have fewer safe exits than a traditional home.

If you live in a mobile home, precautions can be taken. Be cautious and alert to prevent fire in your mobile home.

SAFETY TIPS

- ◆ **CHOOSE** a home built after 1976 that has the **HUD** (US Department of Housing and Urban Development) label certifying that it meets certain minimum safety standards.
- ◆ Be sure your home has enough smoke alarms. You need a smoke alarm inside each bedroom, outside each sleeping area and in or near the family/living room area (s). For the best protection,

interconnect all smoke alarms so when one sounds, they all sound.

- ◆ **TEST** smoke alarms at least once a month. Replace the batteries in your smoke detectors at least once a year.
- ◆ **HAVE** a home fire escape plan that includes two ways out of every room and an outside meeting place. Make sure all ways out of the home are easy to use. Practice your fire drill at least twice a year.
- ◆ If your smoke alarm sounds when you are cooking, consider moving the alarm further from the kitchen area or install a photoelectric type alarm which is less sensitive to cooking.
- ◆ **NEVER** remove or disable a smoke alarm.
- ◆ Consider having a licensed electrician inspect the electrical system to be sure it is safe and meets the applicable National Electric Code® requirements.
- ◆ **Use caution when cooking.** Always stay in the kitchen while frying on the stovetop. Keep pot handles turned away from the room.
- ◆ **Don't overload electric outlets.** Mobile home fires are caused by problems in the electrical system twice as frequently as in traditional homes. Protect yourself by monitoring your electrical use. When one powerful electrical appliance is in use, for example an iron, keep the use of others to a minimum. Never leave electrical appliances operating unattended.
- ◆ **Don't leave children unsupervised,** even for a quick trip to a neighbor's home or to the store. It takes only a few seconds for curiosity to turn to tragedy. Once a fire starts in a mobile home, it is likely to be deadly. Fire will spread rapidly, trapping the child. By the time you return home, it may be too late.
- ◆ If you smoke, be extremely careful with smoking materials. **Never smoke in bed.** If you are feeling

tired, don't even smoke in that big, comfortable easy chair. Always use large ashtrays that have plenty of room for your cigarette or cigar, use an ashtray that won't tip over, and empty them frequently. Douse butts with water before throwing in the trash can.

- ◆ To guard against fires, have your furnace inspected at least once a year. Clean or change the furnace filters regularly. Keep the furnace area clear of clutter - don't use it as a storage area and **NEVER** use your furnace as a clothes dryer. Check your furnace exhaust vent and clear obstructions such as leaves or animal nests from the vent pipe.
- ◆ Your mobile home should be equipped with a working fire extinguisher, easily accessible and ready for use. It is a good idea to keep one fire extinguisher in the kitchen and another near the furnace. Make sure that they are multi-purpose, dry chemical extinguishers, suitable for class A, B and C fires. Teach all family members how to use them.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL:

Grand Island Fire Department

100 East First Street, Grand Island, NE 68801
308-385-5444, Ext. 220

- ◆ **Station 1**
409 E. Fonner Park Rd. 385-5300
- ◆ **Station 2**
1720 N. Broadwell Ave. 385-5310
- ◆ **Station 3**
2310 S. Webb Road 385-5337
- ◆ **Station 4**
3690 W. State St. 385-5387