



# Mobile Home Safety

A Factsheet on Living Safely in Your Mobile Home

## What to Do if There's a Fire in your Mobile Home.

- Get out of the mobile home.
- Once out – STAY OUT! Do not go back in for ANY reason.
- Call 9-1-1 from a safe location.
- Give the dispatch as much accurate information as you can.
- Use your fire escape plan. Go to the designated family meeting place.
- Try to let neighbors know to get out. Help elderly folks or families who have many children.
- Have someone meet the fire trucks when they arrive, if it can be done safely.
- Keep the fire lanes open.
- If you can't get out, use a phone to stay in touch with 9-1-1 dispatchers. Shine a flashlight or wave a sheet out the window to alert firefighters that you're trapped.
- Stay calm.

Finally, *pools pose a separate hazard* for people who live in mobile home communities.

Pools must be fenced, and the gates must close and latch on their own. If children use the pool, an adult must always be inside the gate, in the pool area, constantly watching the children.

## Tips for Living Safely in Mobile Home Communities

### ■ **Make sure you have smoke alarms that work.**

The Fire Code requires working smoke alarm(s) in every mobile home unit. Existing mobile homes require smoke alarms in the hallway outside sleeping areas. Newly constructed mobile homes now require them IN the sleep room, as well. Remember to test the smoke alarm(s) once a month, and replace the batteries once a year.

### ■ It is recommended that you have a portable fire extinguisher within your mobile home.

■ When in use, barbecues should be located on ground level and be a minimum of 10 feet from buildings, structures, covered walkways or roof overhangs.

### ■ **Don't park in front of fire hydrants and don't park in fire lanes.**

Respecting the fire restrictions may literally save your life. When friends visit, be sure to remind them to park only in appropriate parking areas.

### ■ **Never leave smoking materials burning. Never smoke in bed.**

In 2001, the most common cause of apartment fires was careless disposal of smoking materials.

### ■ **Have a fire escape plan. Practice it.**

Know at least two ways to get out of your mobile home. Pick a family meeting place outside the mobile home.

■ **Make sure there's a number on your mobile home.**

If there isn't, contact management.

■ **Keep a copy of your space number and mobile home number, inside your mobile home, near the phone.**

The information will then be handy for babysitters, and it will be there if you panic.

■ **Complex owners and managers need to be sure gated driveways are accessible to firefighters.**

75-percent of mobile home communities are now gated. Work with the fire department to make sure access requirements are met.

■ **Don't run extension cords under carpets or from unit-to-unit.**

They can easily overheat. Extension cords are for temporary use only. They are not to be used as a substitute for permanent wiring.

■ **Get acquainted with the elderly folks in your community.**

If there's a fire, they may have extra difficulty getting out. You may be able to help them, or you can direct firefighters to the elderly person's mobile home.

**For More Information**

**Contact:**

**City of Medina Fire Department**

**330-725-1772**