It’s hard to believe that summertime will be coming to a close…days are getting shorter and there will soon be a chill in the air! In this issue of Safety Lines, we will be reminding you how to keep your family safe from fire and burns when preparing for fall clean-up, heating your home, and participating in fun fall activities!

IN THIS ISSUE

- How to burn yard waste safely
- Halloween tips
- Books that teach kids about fire safety.

No matter what type of device or system you use to heat your home, making sure they are in good working order is an important part of keeping your family safe!

**FURNACE**

- Get your central heating system cleaned, inspected and serviced by a certified HVAC (heating, venting and air conditioning) contractor every year before using it. Keep anything that can burn away from your furnace.
- If your home has a fossil fuel burning heater or appliances, a fireplace, or an attached garage, make sure you have adequate and functioning carbon monoxide alarms.
FIREPLACE

- If you have a fireplace in your home, be sure to have it inspected each year to ensure that it is safe.
- Use fireplace screens to keep sparks and debris inside the fireplace and to keep little ones from touching the glass window of gas fireplaces. The glass front of a fireplace can reach 1300 degrees F and stay hot enough to cause burns for an hour after use!
- Always make sure the fire is out before you leave your home or go to bed.

SPACE HEATERS

- Make sure to keep anything that is flammable at least 3 feet away from space heaters.
- Do not use extension cords with space heaters.
- Make sure the space heater has an automatic shut off so that if it tips or gets knocked over, it shuts off.
- Turn space heaters off if you leave the room and when you go to bed.
SAFETY TIPS

Halloween will be here before you know it! Our costumes, trick or treating and jack-o-lanterns all pose fire hazards...fortunately these risks can be avoided by following a few simple safety tips!

- Tealight candles inside jack-o-lanterns create a fire hazard. Instead, use a battery-operated candle or glow stick!
- Dried flowers, cornstalks and other paper decorations can catch fire very easily! Make sure to keep decorations away from heat sources and open flames.
- When trick-or-treating, keep children away from open flames like jack-o-lanterns at neighborhood houses that may have candles in them. Practice stop, drop, and roll so that they will know what to do, just in case!
- When you are choosing your child’s costume, make sure they are flame retardant, and stay away from anything with long, flowing fabric.
- When decorating the inside and outside of your home, make sure you do not block exits so that your escape routes remain clear.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

BURNING YARD WASTE

It is so important to closely supervise your children when you are involved in fall projects—especially those involving fire or poisonous products. Make sure you check with your municipality to see if you are allowed to burn backyard waste.

IF SO:

- Only burn dried yard waste when there is NO WIND. Make sure nearby vegetation isn't dry.
- Keep a hose nearby and turned on.
- Burn away from buildings, trees, and shrubbery, vehicles and overhead power lines.
- Never use an accelerant such as gasoline or kerosene to ignite yard waste.
- Keep children and pets away when burning yard waste.
- Stay with your fire until it is completely out.
KIDS CORNER

OCTOBER 6-12, 2019 IS FIRE PREVENTION WEEK!!

Every day, fire fighters and first responders risk their lives to help and save those in their communities. Fire Prevention week is a perfect opportunity to say THANK YOU!

Encourage your children to create a craft, like the ones shown at right, and present them to your local fire department as a THANK YOU for everything they do.

Always use crafts and activities like these as a teachable moment, reinforcing messages such as

- **Firefighters are your friend!**—Talk to your child about the gear a firefighter wears, and although it may look scary, they are here to help!
- **Don’t Hide, Go Outside!**—If there is a fire, never hide, go outside to your meeting spot!
- **Matches and lighters are tools (for adults!) not toys!**
- **Stop, Drop and Roll**—if your clothing catches on fire.
- **Get Low and Go!**—If your house is full of smoke, the safest way to escape is crawling low under the smoke!


Book Corner

- **Protecting Your Home, A Book about Firefighters** by Ann Owen
- **No Dragons for Tea: Fire Safety for Kids (and Dragons)**, by Jean E. Pendziwol
- **Arthur’s Fire Drill**, by Marc Brown
- **Touch and Feel Fire Engine**, by DK
- **Firefighters Help**, by Dee Ready
- **The Little Fire Truck**, by Margery Cuyler and Bob Kolar
- **Curious George and the Firefighters**, by H. A. Rey and Margret Rey

For more information, visit: www.burnprevention.org