



Town of Cheektowaga Emergency Services

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FIRE

TERMS TO KNOW

Burning Ban: A declared ban for open air burning within a specific area, usually due to sustained high fire danger.



BE PREPARED!

- Buy and carefully maintain a quality smoke detector.
- Learn what causes fire and inspect your home to eliminate or control fire hazards.
- Install at least 5 pound A-B-C type fire extinguisher in the home and teach family members how to use them.
- Establish a well planned escape route with your family. Hold practice fire drills until family members are thoroughly familiar with the plan.
- If you have an older home, have the wiring checked by a qualified electrician to make sure it meets current building codes.
- Have your chimney and fireplace cleaned and inspected yearly for creosote build-up, cracks, crumbling bricks or mortar and any obstructions.
- Keep storage areas clean and tidy.
- Keep curtains, towels, and potholders away from hot surfaces.
- Store solvents and flammable cleaners away from heat sources. Never keep gasoline in the house.
- Inspect extension cords for frayed or exposed wires or loose plugs.
- Keep an eye on your cooking and stay in the kitchen.
- Wear short or close fitting sleeves when cooking

DURING A FIRE

If you smell smoke or the smoke detector goes off, activate the nearest pull-station and call the Fire Department at once.

Home or High-Rise Fire

- Before you open the door, feel the door by using the back of your hand. If the door is hot or warm, do not open the door. If the door is cool, open it just a little to check the hallway. If you see smoke, do not leave. If there is no smoke in the hallway, leave and close the door. Go directly to the stairs to leave.
- If you cannot escape, use wet towels or tape to seal the door and any room supply vent.
- If you have a balcony and there is no fire below it, go out. If there is fire below. Go to the window. If there is no fire below, go to the window and open it. Stay near the open window.
- Hang a blanket or a towel out of the window to let people know that you are there and need help. Be calm and wait for someone to rescue you.
- NEVER use the elevator

Cooking Fire

- Slide a pan lid over flames to smother a grease or oil fire, then turn off the heat and leave the lid in place until the pan cools. Never carry the pan outside.
- Extinguish other food fires with baking soda. Never use water or flour on cooking fires.
- Keep the oven door shut and turn off the heat to smother an oven or broiler fire.