



MACOMB TOWNSHIP *Michigan*

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY TIPS

JANUARY 2018

In this month's Fire and Life Safety Tips, we have included information on :

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Winter Storms

Winter storms, especially ice storms can cause widespread power outages among other problems. Taking a few extra steps can help keep your home free from damage and keep you safe:

-Have a battery backup in all carbon monoxide alarms and smoke detectors and replace them regularly! CO alarms are especially important to have in winter months when furnaces and other fuel powered appliances are in operation.

-Let faucets drip a little to avoid freezing.

-Know how to shut off your water valves.

-Alternative heaters need their space. Keep anything that can catch fire at least three feet away.

-Make sure wood stoves are properly installed, and at least three feet away from anything that can catch fire. Ensure they have the proper floor support and adequate ventilation.

-Always use a flashlight – not a candle for emergency lighting

-Be extra cautious if you go outside to inspect for damage after a storm. Downed or hanging electrical wires can be hidden by snowdrifts, trees or debris, and could be live. Never attempt to touch or move downed lines. Do not touch anything power lines are touching such as tree branches or fences.





**MACOMB
TWP. FIRE
DEPT. HAS
FREE SMOKE
DETECTORS
AVAILABLE TO
RESIDENTS.**

**Contact us at
586-949-2138
to inquire, or
email us at**

fireprevention@macomb-mi.gov

WINTER VEHICLE SAFETY KIT

You never know if you could get stuck in your car during icy or snowy weather. Here are some things you might consider keeping in your vehicle this winter:



- Gloves
- Boots
- Kitty litter or sand for better traction
- Blanket
- Cell phone charger
- Food/Snacks
- Water
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Jumper Cables
- First Aid Kit
- Ice Scraper and Small Shovel

Smoke Detectors and cold weather: False Alarms

The unit may go into alarm only when it is very cold out or if a detector is on the ceiling of a room below a poorly insulated attic, a door adjacent to a heated area is opened, such as in an entry way. This is due to condensation (water vapor) in the detection chamber.

The sensor is a particle-sensing device and when water condenses in the sensor, the unit will go into alarm.

If you have any doubt if the alarm is false, or are uneasy about the alarm, do not hesitate to contact us by dialing 911.



PUT A THERMOMETER ON FREEZE WINTER FIRES

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, **be fire smart!**

Half of all home heating fires occur in the months of



Heating equipment is involved in **1** in every **7** reported home fires and **1** in every **5** home fire deaths.



Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and **as far away as possible from your home.**

Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least **once a month.**



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year.**



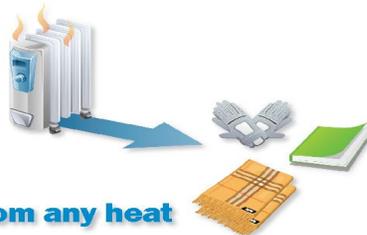
Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least

10 feet

from your home and any nearby buildings.

Keep anything that can burn at least

3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, or space heaters.



Plug only **1** heat-producing appliance (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and www.nfpa.org/winter.

