

REMEMBER, REMEMBER...
STAY SAFE THIS OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER


www.merseyfire.gov.uk

NEVER GIVE ANYONE COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS.

REMEMBER: You should only buy fireworks from retailers who are registered with Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service.

MFRS attended 100 bonfire related incidents last bonfire period.

REMEMBER: If a fire engine is called out to a deliberate bonfire, wheelie bin fire or rubbish fire, this may delay our response to other emergencies.

BONFIRES are only allowed on private land with the owner's permission and **MUST** be supervised by an adult at **ALL TIMES**.

TOP TIP Keep water handy and ensure the fire is completely out before leaving.

PETS can be frightened by fireworks and should be kept indoors if possible to avoid unnecessary distress.

GET ORGANISED: Check your local authority's website for details of organised displays in your area.

FOLLOW THE FIREWORK CODE

We recommend attending an organised display but if you must have fireworks at home, please follow this safety advice.

DOs 

- Only buy fireworks from retailers registered with MFRS
- Keep fireworks in a closed box
- Follow the instructions on each firework
- Light them at arm's length, using a taper
- Stand well back
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Keep pets indoors

DON'Ts 

- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks
- Never go near a firework that has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Don't let fireworks off after 11pm

IN AN EMERGENCY, YOU SHOULD ALWAYS DIAL 999


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HOW TO PREVENT COMMON FIRES



Most fires in the home start accidentally and the effects can be devastating. The simple safety information in this leaflet is designed to keep you a lot safer.

SMOKE ALARMS – THEY ARE LIFESAVERS

Smoke alarms can be lifesavers, if they are working, in fact you are seven times more likely to die in a fire in the home if you don't have working smoke alarms.

HAVE at least one working alarm on each level of your home.

TEST them regularly in accordance with manufacturer's guidelines – press to test. ASK someone to help if you are unable to test your alarm.

DON'T IGNORE A SOUNDING SMOKE ALARM – EVEN IF IT'S NOT YOURS, A NEIGHBOUR COULD BE RELYING ON YOU AND YOU COULD SAVE THEIR LIFE – CALL 999 AND ASK FOR THE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE.

HEATING APPLIANCES – STAY WARM, STAY SAFE

Using unsafe heating methods can often lead to a fire starting in your property.

KEEP heaters away from curtains and furniture and other materials that may ignite.

NEVER dry clothes over a heater or open fire.

ALWAYS use fireguards with open fires and ensure you have your chimney swept regularly.

DON'T move the heater while it is turned on.

KITCHENS – CAN BE DANGEROUS PLACES

More than half of all house fires start in the kitchen. You can prevent this by following the safety tips below.

NEVER leave your cooking unattended. If you need to leave the kitchen for any reason, turn off the heat until you go back into the kitchen. And don't forget to double check you have turned off the hob and the cooker once you have finished cooking.

KEEP loose clothing and tea towels away from flames. They can catch fire quickly and cause nasty injuries or even worse.

AVOID cooking when you are tired/drowsy or have been drinking alcohol.

CLEAN your oven and grill regularly. A build-up of fat or grease can easily ignite and cause a fire.

AVOID using chip pans. Electric deep fat fryers are much safer. NEVER put water on a chip pan or oil fire.

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES – A POTENTIAL FIRE HAZARD

More than 28,000 house fires are reported each year as being caused by electrical faults, accidents or misuse.

DON'T overload plug sockets as too many items draw power from the one socket and can overheat – one plug, one socket.

CHECK cables to make sure they are not frayed or damaged and look for any scorch marks around sockets or plugs.

DISCARD any worn or faulty items or appliances. If in doubt get them checked by a qualified electrician.

TURN OFF electrical items overnight that are not designed to be left on.

AVOID charging items such as laptops and mobile phones overnight.

NEVER use appliances through the night – or when people are sleeping – such as tumble dryers. Electric blankets should only be used to warm the bed and not left on whilst sleeping.

BEDTIME ROUTINE – SLEEP SAFELY

Fires that break out while you are asleep can be even more dangerous. The best way to stay safe is to introduce a night time routine that everyone in your home is familiar with.

CLOSE all doors to stop the fire and smoke spreading from room to room.

KEEP keys close by on your escape route and a phone to call for help should there be an emergency.

TURN OFF all electrical devices that you can and don't leave items charging overnight.

MAKE SURE all escape routes are clear of items that may stop you getting out the property safely.

SMOKING – CAN BE DEADLY

If you or somebody in your home smokes you need to take extra care to ensure you stay safe.

NEVER smoke in bed. You could easily fall asleep while your cigarette is still burning and cause a major fire.

USE a proper heavy ashtray that cannot be tipped over easily.

DON'T empty your ashtray straight into a bin as the embers and ash could still be hot and cause a fire.

KEEP matches and lighters away from children.

DON'T leave e-cigarettes charging overnight.

ALWAYS follow the manufacturer's guidelines.

CANDLES – DON'T LET THEM GO UP IN SMOKE

A few candles can create a nice warm glow in your home, but remember you are bringing fire into the home, so they need to be treated carefully.

ALWAYS use a suitable holder on a heat-resistant surface when using candles or tealights.

KEEP clothes and hair away from a naked flame as they can easily ignite.

NEVER move lit candles or place them near to curtains or other items that may blow in the wind and ignite.

MAKE sure children and pets cannot get close to candles and knock them over.

DON'T leave them burning overnight or if you leave the room ensure they are put out fully.

WHEELIE BINS – DON'T MAKE THEM A TARGET

Wheelie bins can be a fire hazard, not only from carelessly discarded items, such as smoking materials, but they are also a very real target for arsonists.

DON'T store your wheelie bin by windows or doors as any fire in the bin could easily spread to your property.

PREVENT your bin by becoming a target – store it away – especially at night.

Anyone can request or make a referral for a Home Fire Safety check, including for friends, relatives and neighbours.

To help us protect you and your home and to keep your family safer from fire, act now and request a Home Fire Safety Check.

**CALL FREE ON
0800 731 5958**
(quoting reference 130)*

Further information is also available at
www.merseysfire.gov.uk
www.firekills.gov.uk

*Calls from non-BT phone lines may be charged, check with your service provider for charges.

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WHEELIE BIN? TAKE IT IN!

STOP YOUR BINS BEING SET ON FIRE

DID YOU KNOW?
Wheelie bins can become easy targets over the bonfire period. Keep your bins safe, secure and, if possible, away from windows, doors and fences.
Only put your bin out on collection day and bring it back in IMMEDIATELY.

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**FOR FURTHER FREE FIRE SAFETY ADVICE,
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