



Home Fire Safety Inspection

The **City of Gainesville Fire Rescue** offers "free" **Home Fire Safety Inspections!** The inspection will check each room of your home and offer fire safety tips and suggestions to safe guard your family from the threat of fire. The inspection typically lasts 15-20 minutes and an adult must be present during the inspection. No fines or citations are issued on residential occupancies rather we simply wish to assist you in making your home fire safe!

To conduct your own Fire Safety Inspection, use the inspection checklist listed below or contact the **Fire Rescue Administration Office at 352-334-5078 to schedule your "free" Home Fire Safety Inspection!**

Home Fire Safety Inspection

Exterior Inspection

- Make house number visible from street (mailbox and house)
- Trim trees away from electrical wires (professional tree service)
- Trim trees away from house, gutters, roof, sheds, fences, etc
- Avoid stacking fire wood next to house
- Fire pits should be located a safe distance away from home and always use a metal screen cover

General Fire Safety

- Install a smoke detector on each floor of the home
- Install smoke detectors outside each bedroom area and inside every bedroom. Test smoke detectors twice per year
- Install a carbon monoxide detector in the home if you have gas appliances or a fire place
- Install a Class ABC fire extinguisher in the kitchen & garage & inspect twice per year
- Create a fire escape plan & practice with the entire family
- Select a meeting location outside the home for all family members to gather after leaving the home during a fire
- Teach family members how to get down low and crawl out of the home to safety
- Teach children how to Stop-Drop-Roll should their clothing catch on fire
- Teach all family members how to dial 911 for emergencies

Heating Equipment

- Keep space heaters a minimum of 3 feet from drapes, beds, clothing and all combustibles
- Avoid using fuel supplied space heaters inside the home
- Do not use stove/oven to heat home
- Replace air/heat filters monthly
- Clean lint from clothes dryer after each use
- Install a spark screen in front of the fireplace
- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned annually
- Inspect the spark arrestor on the chimney top
- Build small fires in the fireplace using commercial purchased logs. Avoid the use of pine wood

- Dispose of fireplace ashes using a metal container
- Unplug hair dryer, hair straightener, curling iron, etc after use

Electrical

- Avoid overloading outlets
- Avoid using extension cords
- Use power strips with a circuit breaker and have a UL rating
- Do not run power cords under rugs or carpet
- Maintain air space around electrical equipment such as television, stereo equipment, etc
- Breakers that trip often indicate a electrical problem occurring & a qualified electrician should be called
- Use a qualified electrician to install or repair electrical appliances, fans, lights, etc

Cooking

- Never leave cooking unattended
- Turn pot handles away from stove edge to avoid hot liquid burns
- Use proper temperature and cooking time specified for recipe
- Keep combustibles away from top of stove
- Turn off valve on gas tank after grilling
- Grill outdoors away from home

Garage

- Allow lawn mower to cool down before storing in garage
- Keep combustibles away from gas water heater
- Store flammables in approved containers
- Carefully store hazardous materials including flammables, lawn chemicals, pool supplies, cleaning products, automotive products, etc separated from each other
- Assure all chemical products are stored in original containers & label intact
- Dispose of out of date chemicals by disposing at selected hazardous waste locations

Candles & Flame

- Avoid leaving candles unattended
- Place candles in sturdy holders with a protective globe
- Never leave the home with candles still burning
- Keep lighters & matches out of the reach of children