



# Fire won't wait. Plan your escape.™



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firepreventionweek.org

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The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is the official sponsor for Fire Prevention Week (FPW). This year's FPW theme is Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape. Nowadays, because of the combustible properties of consumer products, home fires burn hotter and faster giving people as little as 2 minutes or less to escape. Palm Beach County Fire Rescue firefighters urge **everyone to create and practice a fire escape plan**. Prepare now to prevent panic later. To learn how, [watch our video](#).

## PREPARE

- **Smoke alarms save lives!** They sound in the fire's early stage. Every home should have working smoke alarms in and out of bedrooms, hallways, main living areas and high on every story of your home.
- **Create an escape plan with two [2] ways out of each room** in your home; typically, a door and window. Be sure you can open heavy windows and security bars. Get escape ladders for upper story windows.
- Involve everyone in the home. **Plan for family members who may need help or extra time like children, older adults, and pets.**
- Choose a **meeting place outside** for everyone to go- something stuck to the ground (i.e. tree, light post, mailbox) and easy for firefighters to see you.

## PREVENT PANIC

- **Sleep with bedroom doors closed.** Doors keep heat and smoke out.
- Before you open a door, feel it with the back of your hand. The skin is thin and quick to sense heat.
- If the door is hot, or it's smoky on the other side, keep it closed and escape another way.
- Smoke is hot, poisonous, and rises making it hard to see. **Get low under smoke.**
- Go outside, rush to your family's meeting place and yell for help. Or, call 911 if you have your phone.
- **If you're trapped upstairs**, block the smoke with towels or blankets under the door.
- GO TO the WINDOW and **signal the firefighters** with bright clothes, throw objects onto the ground, or shine a flashlight if it's nighttime. Firefighters will see you AND quickly GET YOU OUT.
- **Get out and STAY OUT!**

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue teaches fire safety year-round and to ALL ages. To schedule a speaker or presentation for your community or organization, call 561-616-7033.

Your Safety. Our Priority.