

## FireSmart

- ☐ Remove debris such as leaves, twigs and needles from around the house and under decks.
- ☐ Keep lawns mowed and irrigated, and choose FireSmart plants for your yard.
- ☐ Enclose decks with non-combustible materials to discourage the collection of debris and embers.
- ☐ Keep firewood piles and other items stacked at least 10 metres from the house, especially during wildfire season.
- ☐ Ensure a clean, fire-resistant roof and clean eaves.
- ☐ Enclose soffits and vents to ensure embers cannot enter.
- ☐ Remove trees, bushes and other combustible material from the first 10 metres around the house. (ie: Junipers and Cedars)
- ☐ Don't forget to consider any buildings or fences within 10 metres of the home and take steps to FireSmart them as well.

## Outside the Home

- ☐ Make sure your house number is visible from the street both day and night.
- ☐ Cigarettes should not be extinguished in planters, on grass, or in peat moss.
- ☐ Use an ashtray or other approved container for disposing of all smoking materials
- ☐ Ensure pools and hot tubs are fenced and locked.

## Emergency Preparedness

- ☐ Know the greatest potential risks in your area, such as flood or fire.
- ☐ Make a household plan related to your risks.
- ☐ In an emergency, you should be prepared to take care of you and your family for a minimum of 72 hours.
- ☐ For more information on emergency preparedness, go to [www.kamloops.ca](http://www.kamloops.ca)

For any questions regarding this brochure or other fire safety inquiries, please contact the Life Safety Educator at **250-571-2965** e-mail [firesafety@kamloops.ca](mailto:firesafety@kamloops.ca) or go to [www.kamloops.ca](http://www.kamloops.ca)



# Home Safety CHECKLIST



## Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

- ☐ Install smoke alarms on every level of the home, including inside and outside each sleeping area.
- ☐ Change smoke alarm batteries twice a year.
- ☐ It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms, so when one alarm sounds they all sound.
- ☐ Test all smoke alarms every month.
- ☐ Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.
- ☐ Have a carbon monoxide alarm on every level and outside each sleeping area.
- ☐ Test your carbon monoxide alarms monthly.
- ☐ Make sure all alarms can be heard from all areas of your home.

## Escape Planning

- ☐ Prepare and practise a home fire escape plan, including a safe meeting place.
- ☐ Ensure bedrooms have two ways out (a window and a door).
- ☐ Teach everyone to get out and stay out! Don't go back in for any reason.
- ☐ Everyone in the home should know how to call 9-1-1 from a safe area and give the address of your location.
- ☐ Windows should open easily. If windows have security bars, ensure they have a quick release.
- ☐ Keep entrances, doorways, and hallways clear of obstructions.

## Heating Safety

- ☐ Ensure portable heaters have 3 ft. of clearance around them.
- ☐ Turn off portable heaters when going to bed or leaving the room for a long period of time.
- ☐ Check and/or service furnace and gas fireplaces annually.
- ☐ Have wood fireplace chimneys inspected and cleaned annually.
- ☐ Gas and/or wood fireplaces should have a screen to prevent burns to children.

## Electrical, Electronics, and Appliances

- ☐ Ensure electrical outlets are not overloaded. Use a power bar with its own breaker.
- ☐ Do not use extension cords for permanent wiring.
- ☐ Do not run extension cords across doorways or under carpets and rugs.
- ☐ Make sure your electrical outlets are child safe — use child-safe covers.
- ☐ Ensure outlet and switch faceplates are secure, in place, and in good condition.

## Candles

- ☐ Make sure candles are extinguished when you leave the room or go to bed.
- ☐ Keep candles two feet away from anything that can burn, such as clothing, curtains, blinds, etc.
- ☐ Candles should be in a non-combustible holder that won't tip over.

## Lighting Safety

- ☐ Make sure bulbs in lighting fixtures are the correct wattage for the fixture to prevent overheating.
- ☐ Check that switches are in good condition and there is no evidence of arcing or overheating.
- ☐ Make sure your lamps are clear of combustibles and curtains and that they sit on a level, sturdy surface.
- ☐ Lamp shades should be used to protect the bulb in case the lamp tips over.
- ☐ Never drape clothing over a lamp to darken a room.

## Kitchen - Cooking Safety

- ☐ Always stay in the kitchen while cooking — never leave food unattended on the stovetop.
- ☐ Keep towels, curtains, and other combustibles away from heat sources, such as the stove top.
- ☐ Keep the stove and oven clean and free of grease.
- ☐ Have a lid nearby to cover a pot or frying pan.
- ☐ Never carry a pot or frying pan that is on fire. The contents can spill over, spreading fire or seriously burning you.
- ☐ Unplug small appliances when they're not being used.
- ☐ Keep a fire extinguisher near your kitchen, close to an exit. The recommended size is 2A-10BC, and it should be tested every 6 years.
- ☐ Keep pan and pot handles turned inward so they can't be bumped.

## General Safety

- ☐ Keep your hot water tank at a safe temperature so children will not get burned.
- ☐ Keep matches and lighters in a safe place, out of children's reach.
- ☐ Store and properly label household chemicals and medications — out of children's reach.
- ☐ Never smoke in bed or where you might fall asleep. Smoking should be outside only.

## Garage

- ☐ Don't store gasoline in your garage. Keep it in an approved container in a shed.
- ☐ Keep gas-powered equipment stored in a shed that is not attached to your home.
- ☐ There should be a solid door between your home and the garage.
- ☐ Keep a fire extinguisher inside your garage (by an exit, if possible).

