WEST DES MOINES FIRE DEPARTMENT
QUICK HOME FIRE INSPECTION

Smoke Detectors & Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors

Yes No
__ __ 1. All smoke detectors and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors have been tested this month.
__ __ 2. The batteries in all smoke detectors and CO detectors have been replaced this year.
__ __ 3. Smoke detectors are cleaned out periodically and replaced every 10 years.
__ __ 4. There are smoke detectors on every floor of the house (including the basement) and outside of every sleeping area. (This is a minimum. If you do not have any smoke detectors, please contact the West Des Moines Fire Department.)

Fire Extinguishers

Yes No
__ __ 1. Extinguishers’ pressure gauges are checked yearly. (Needle should be in the green area of the gauge.)
__ __ 2. Extinguishers are in a visible location.
__ __ 3. Every adult in the household knows how to properly operate the extinguishers.
__ __ 4. Fire extinguishers are inverted and tapped on the bottom periodically. (Chemicals pack down like flour over time, making it less effective.)

Fire Escape Plan

Yes No
__ __ 1. There are two ways out of every room.
__ __ 2. All windows have been exercised periodically. (They open with ease.)
__ __ 3. All persons in the household can safely egress through all designated exits.
__ __ 4. All doors close securely. (Can you close the door to fire?)
__ __ 5. A predetermined meeting place has been established and practiced by all family members in case of a fire.
__ __ 6. Escape plan practiced twice a year.

Electricity

Yes No
__ __ 1. Outlets do not have more than one item per outlet. (Power strips may be used as multifunctional outlets.)
__ __ 2. All outlets have cover plates securely fastened to the wall.
__ __ 3. Breaker box has a cover/door and all knockouts are filled.
Fireplaces, Wood Burning Stoves & Portable Heaters

Yes  No

1. Wood burning stoves, portable heaters and fireplaces have at least 3 feet of clearance from combustibles (ie: newspapers, plants, dry wood, etc.).

2. Wood burning stoves and fireplaces are being vented properly.

3. A trained professional has cleaned and inspected the chimney/ flue this year. (Annual cleaning/ inspection is advised.)

Candles

Yes  No

1. Candles are kept out of reach of children and away from combustibles.

2. Matches and lighters are put away and are out of reach of children.


Furnace & Water Heater

Yes  No

1. A trained professional has checked it this year. (Annual check is recommended.)

2. There are no combustibles within 30 inches of the gas furnace, water heater or gas dryer.

3. A carbon monoxide (CO) detector installed.

Smoking & Cigarettes

Yes  No

1. Use deep sturdy ashtrays.

2. Smokers are very careful with smoking materials.

3. Matches and lighters are out of reach of children.

Flammable Liquids

Yes  No

1. Flammable liquids are stored in tight metal containers (including rags etc. that have absorbed flammable material).

2. Flammable liquids are stored well away from heat sources and pilot lights.

House Identification

Yes  No

1. Address can easily be seen from the street at night.

West Des Moines Fire Department - Fire Administration
3421 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines, IA 50265
515-222-3420