
CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



CONTACT: Daniel Berlant
Information Officer
(916) 651-FIRE (3473)

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CAL FIRE Asks Public's Help to "Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned" *Fire Prevention Week October 4 – 10, 2009*

Sacramento – Every 39 minutes someone in the U.S. is injured in a home fire. Home fires result in hundreds of people being burned and even killed in Californian each year. That's why CAL FIRE is teaming up with fire departments across the country for Fire Prevention Week 2009 to urge all residents to **"Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned."**

This year's fire prevention week campaign runs October 4 – 10 and focuses on ways to keep homes fire safe and prevent painful burns. The statistics are staggering. Each year roughly 3,000 people die nationwide as a result of home fires and burns, and more than 200,000 individuals are seen in the nation's emergency rooms for burn injuries.

"Firefighters wear protective equipment to keep them from getting burned," said CAL FIRE Chief Del Walters. "This week we want to equip the public with knowledge to keep them safe from fire and prevent devastating burn injuries."

By following simple safety rules, you can **"Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned."**

- Keep hot foods and liquids away from tables and counter edges so they cannot be pulled down or knocked over.
- Have a 3-foot "kid-free" zone around the stove.
- Never hold a child in your arms while preparing hot food or drinking a hot beverage.
- Be careful when using things that get hot such as curling irons, ovens, irons, lamps, and heaters.
- Never leave a child alone in a room with a lit candle, portable heater, lit fireplace or stove, or where a hot appliance might be in use.

For more fire safety tips visit the CAL FIRE Web site at www.fire.ca.gov.

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