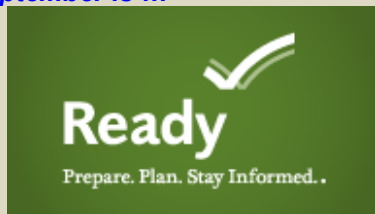


The potential for residential fires increases as we move into Fall and a fire in the home can be devastating, even deadly!

Fire departments respond to more than **350,000 structure fires** each year in the U.S. These fires cause more than 10,000 injuries, 2,500 deaths and approximately \$6 Billion in property damage.

- **Are the smoke alarms in your home more than ten years old?**
- **Have you tested those smoke detectors/alarms, lately!? When was the last time you changed the batteries?**
- **Do you have a working, ready to use fire extinguisher in your car, home or garage?**

September is ...



National Preparedness Month

Are you ready? Answer these simple questions...

- Where is the closest Fire Extinguisher from my work station?
- Where is the nearest First Aid kit or AED?
- Where is the closest Eye Wash and/or Safety Shower?
- Where is the rally point?
- Where is the designated Shelter-in-place location?

How do crazy people go through the forest? They take the psycho path.

Why did the chicken cross the playground? To get to the other slide.

The Take Five for Safety Program reminds us that

Prior to beginning a new task, workers should **Take Five minutes** to consider how to do the job safely.

- Walk down to the work area.
- Review the hazards and plan with the team members.
- Discuss what could go wrong.
- Consider how to minimize environmental impact.
- Identify the tools, materials, PPE, signs and barriers required.
- Review the training needed for the work activity and write a Job Safety Analysis that includes all the required elements to properly **mitigate the associated risks**.

Take Five Seconds to think about what you're going to do.

- Have I established a safe work area?
- Am I using the necessary personal protective equipment?
- Am I using the necessary safety measures? (Hazard Analysis, LOTO, ALARA...)
- Do I have the time necessary to complete the task safely?

Upon completion of the task, Take Five More Minutes...

Use these to focus on continuous improvement.

- Ensure you are leaving the work area free of hazards!
- Review how the task was completed (discuss what went well and capture opportunities)
- Discuss whether or not the JSA needs to be revised
- Make sure these observations are recorded so the necessary changes can be made.

Identity Theft is a Growing Problem

Over 12.6 million Americans were victims of identity theft last year. There are steps you can take to protect yourself and your family.

-Ignore unsolicited emails that appear to be from financial institutions, credit card companies, the IRS, etc. These are most likely phishing scams looking for a sucker.

-Guard your personal information. Never give out your SSN, credit card number or back account information online. You can get a secure number for each online credit card transaction just search MasterCard SecureCode or Verified by Visa online. When in doubt about a questionable email, call your bank or credit card company using the number on the back of the card...not the one in the email.

-Limit Facebook sharing. Make sure teens and young adults know that scammers and thieves are tracking Facebook activity. By sharing enough personal information, they can find out where you live... so if you're also telling online friends about an upcoming trip to Florida...thieves will know when to break-in to your empty residence.

-Have and use Multiple Passwords. Avoid using the same password for multiple accounts – criminals love when people take the easy way out because it makes it so easy to rip you off. And safeguard your passwords too... do not keep them on your computer or in your wallet.