



June is Home Safety Month. Roanoke Fire-EMS, Safe Kids Roanoke and the Home Safety Council have compiled a checklist that you can use as a guide to find and fix hazards in your home. Take some time with your family this month to identify hazards in and around your home.

_____ Do you have a first-aid kit stocked with emergency items? Do you have water and backup batteries?

_____ Do you practice a home fire escape plan at least twice a year so everyone in your family knows at least two exits out of every room and where to meet outside in case of an emergency?

_____ Have you installed smoke alarms on every level of your home and near every sleeping area?

_____ Do you test your smoke alarms once a month and change the batteries when you change your clocks in the Spring and the Fall?

_____ Do you always stay in the kitchen when food is cooking on the stove?

_____ If you have fire escape ladders, have you opened them safely from a ground-floor window for practice?

_____ Do you use power strips for your electronic devices instead of extension cords?

_____ Are all stairs and steps free from clutter, well lit and protected with a secure banister or hand rail?

_____ Do you keep all paths and walkways clear of clutter and well lit?

_____ Do you use nightlights to help light hallways and bathrooms during night-time hours?

_____ Have you installed grab bars in bath and shower stalls and do you use a non-slip mat or have adhesive safety strips or decals inside bathtubs and showers?

_____ Do you use rug-liners with all bath mats and rugs or do they have a non-skid back?

_____Do you use a sturdy step stool (and not a chair) when climbing?

_____Have you installed a UL-listed carbon monoxide (CO) alarm in the hallway near bedrooms in your home if you have gas or oil appliances?

_____Have you posted the National Poison Control Hotline number (1-800-222-1222) along with other emergency numbers next to every phone in your home?

_____Are caustic items (products that can burn your skin such as oven cleaners and rust remover) as well as all potential poisons kept in their original and labeled containers?

_____Do dangerous products, including cleaning products, medications and chemicals, have child-resistant caps and kept away from food?

_____Have you flushed unknown and out-of-date medicines down the toilet?

_____Are medicines kept in their original containers with the original labels?

_____Do you constantly supervise children in or near water, such as pools, ponds, bathtubs, buckets, etc . . . ?

_____Do you keep your water heater setting at 120 degrees Fahrenheit or less?

_____Do you store gasoline in a locked garage or shed, out of the reach of children, and always in a container made for gasoline?

_____Are you careful to only use gasoline as a motor fuel and to never bring gasoline indoors, even in small amounts?

_____Are you careful to never use a barbecue grill or generator in your garage?

_____Do you always pull the car out of the garage after starting it?

_____Have you moved objects, such as tires and gardening tools that are leaning against walls?

_____Do you store tools, gardening supplies and automotive parts in a secure cabinet or high shelf out of reach of children?

CHILD SAFETY

_____Are all matches & lighters stored in a locked cabinet?

_____Does your child stay at least 3 feet away from the stove/range at all times?

_____Do you keep all pot handles turned away from the edge of the stove/range?

_____Have you installed child safety locks on cabinets where hazardous products and medications are stored?

_____Are dangerous household items, such as medicines, toxic bleaches, oven and drain cleaners, paint solvents, polishes, and waxes stored safely in a locked cabinet and out of reach of children?

_____Do you lock up all outside chemicals, especially pesticides, fertilizers and automotive fluids?

_____Have you installed baby gates at the top and bottom of stairwells?

_____Do you keep all plastic wrapping, such as dry-cleaning bags, produce bags and trash bags away from children?

_____Are you careful not to hang pictures, quilts or decorations with ribbon or string on or over a crib?

_____Have you checked to make sure blind cords are not dangling low off windows and do not hang in a loop?

_____Have you placed furniture, including cribs and playpens and beds away from windows?

_____Have you installed window guards with an emergency release to prevent young children from falling out of upper windows?

_____Have you secured dressers, book cases or tv stands to the wall so that a child can't accidentally pull them down on top of themselves?

_____Have your older children memorized 9-1-1?

_____Have your older children memorized their parents names, address and phone number?

_____Are electrical outlets covered with safety caps?

_____Have you checked nursery furniture to be sure they are strong and secure?

_____Have you checked the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission website at www.cpsc.gov to find out if your crib, toys or other home items have been recalled?

_____Have you carefully checked toys and pacifiers and removed those with small or broken parts that could be lodged in a child's throat, ears or nose?

_____Do you keep small items such as jewelry, buttons, safety pins, coins and small batteries away from children?

_____Do you practice “touch supervision” – keeping children within an arm’s reach around any standing water such as pools, ponds, bathtubs, buckets, etc . . . ?

_____Have you taught your children not to dive under the water in a Jacuzzi or hot tub? Their hair can become entangled, posing a drowning hazard.

_____Do you test the temperature of your child’s bath water to make sure it is below 120 degrees Fahrenheit?

_____Have you installed a back up alarm or camera on your car to make sure you can see behind your car when backing? (Make sure you know where your children are so you don’t accidentally back over them).

_____Have you made sure your car is locked when it is in the driveway so that your curious child doesn’t climb inside and become trapped, posing a danger for heat stroke?

_____Have you made sure that your playground equipment is in proper working order?

_____Do you r kids always wear their helmets when riding bikes, scooters, skateboards or when wearing roller skates or roller blades?

_____Do you practice safety inside of your car by having your child properly restrained either in an approved child safety seat (until age 8) or in a seatbelt? For more info about child passenger safety, check out the Roanoke Fire-EMS website at www.roanokeva.gov/fire-ems.