

Spring Fire Safety



For many Virginia residents the last days of March serve as a painful reminder that it is time to work on their spring cleaning checklist. As many begin the arduous task of cleaning and clearing the debris that accumulated over the winter months, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) recommend that residents add home fire safety to their list.

To assist you in fire proofing your home during the spring season, consider the following safety tips:

- Check and clean your smoke alarm.
- Check and clean your carbon monoxide alarm.
- Check your fire extinguisher.
- Make sure electrical outlets and extension cords are not overloaded.
- Have air conditioning units and other electrical appliances checked by a licensed professional.
- Clear your basement and attics from old papers, oily rags, and broken furniture.
- Make sure all fire exits or escape routes that are identified in your fire escape drill are clear of any debris and are not blocked-off.
- Inspect your charcoal/gas grills.
- Spread mulch at least a foot away from the house with a non-combustible barrier in between, such as rock.
- Finally, when you are finished spring cleaning make sure all cleaning products are stored in child safety latched drawers and cabinets with the original labels.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF FIRE PROGRAMS

For more fire safety information visit us online at www.vafire.com