



## WINTER FIRE SAFETY TIPS



The winter months are upon Southeast Texas and with this season comes the need to keep our families warm by the use of heaters, furnaces and fireplaces just to name a few. Unfortunately, it is also a fact that there is an increase in home fires during this season. The following are a few safety tips that you can do to keep you and your family safe this winter.

- ASSURE - there is at least one working smoke detector in your home.
- ASSURE - the battery is good and check it monthly by depressing the TEST button.
- ASSURE - everyone in the home knows what to do if/when the detector is activated.
- CRAWL - in a smoke-filled room stay close to the floor and crawl to exit the house. Heated/toxic air rises toward the ceiling and breathing it can kill.
- ESCAPE PLAN - develop an escape plan with family members, especially little ones, and practice the plan...
  - If the fire alarm sounds...get out of the house
  - Call the fire department from a neighbors house **911**
  - Designate a "meeting place" a neighbor's home, front yard tree, mailbox. This will allow a safe location to take a headcount to assure everyone is out of the house.
  - ONCE OUT - STAY OUT...never, never go back inside a burning home until proven safe to do so.

- ASSURE heaters, furnaces and fireplaces are functioning properly. Have them checked and don't assume the equipment is operating properly, your family is too important.

A Safety Message From the  
Jefferson County E.S.D. #1 Fire Department

