



Spring Fire Safety

With the early warm weather we have been experiencing you may be filled with Spring Fever. For many River Forest residents the last days of March/early April serve as a painful reminder that it is time to work on their spring cleaning and Safety Checklist. As many begin the arduous task of cleaning and clearing the debris that accumulated over the winter months, the River Forest Fire Department recommends 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 alarms. Replace them if they are 10 years or older.
- Check and clean your carbon monoxide alarms.
- 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, attics and garages from old papers, oily rags, and broken furniture.
- Make sure all fire exits or escape routes that are identified in your fire escape plan are clear of any debris and are not blocked.
- Inspect your charcoal/gas grills for cracked hoses.
- Keep mulch at least a foot away from the house and use a non-combustible barrier near the house, 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.

For more information please call the River Forest Fire Prevention Bureau at 708-714-3562.

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