

RESIDENTIAL FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION GUIDE

EVERMAN FIRE DEPARTMENT

www.EvermanTx.US/Fire



Interior and Exterior

- Ensure home address numbers are a minimum of 4 inches tall and clearly visible from the street
- Remove any trash, debris, tall grass or discarded vegetation to reduce additional fire danger
- Repair or replace any broken windows or doors

Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Install smoke alarms inside each bedroom, outside sleeping area (hallway) and on every level of the home
- Install CO alarms in a central location outside sleeping area and on every level of the home if gas is provided to home.
- Ensure all doors and window open and operate with ease and no special tools required to open from inside the home
- Test smoke and CO alarms once a month, and replace batteries once a year
- Replace smoke and CO alarm units every 10 years

Electrical

- Electrical service must be established prior to requesting a residential C/O inspection- Applies to Rental Homes
- Have a qualified electrician replace any missing breakers that have exposed open spaces in your breaker panel
- Kitchen and bathroom outlets within 6 feet of running water and all exterior outlets of home must have a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter outlet
- All outlets must have an outlet cover in place and secured. If there are young children in the home, we suggest installing outlet safety plugs.
- Inspect electrical cords for damage; electrical cords should never be frayed, cracked, pinned to the wall or placed under rugs
- Maintain air space around electrical equipment
- Do not overload electrical outlets; additional outlets should be installed by a qualified electrician

Flammable Liquids & Hazardous Materials

- Limit the amount of all chemicals stored in the home
- Store hazardous materials away from heat sources in containers with tight-fitting lids and correct identification labels
- Allow for ample ventilation when using flammable liquids and/or hazardous materials
- Dispose of household hazardous materials properly, this service is offered to Everman citizens annually. Check the city's website for more details.

Smoking & Candles

- Never leave burning cigarettes or candles unattended
- Never smoke in bed
- Place candles in sturdy holders at least 12 inches away from combustibles (curtains, clothing, etc.)
- Avoid using candles in the bedroom and other areas where occupants may fall asleep
- Store matches & lighters out of the reach of children

Heating Equipment & Fireplace

- Keep combustibles at least 3 feet away from space heaters and fireplace
- Ensure space heaters are equipped with an automatic shut-off function
- Do not use propane heaters inside the home or use the oven to heat the home
- Keep clutter and other combustibles away from the water heater and furnace
- Remove lint from clothes dryer after each cycle and clean exhaust duct (flexible tube) annually
- Install a spark arrester on chimney and have the chimney inspected and cleaned annually

Fire Extinguishers

- Install multipurpose (ABC) extinguishers so they are visible and accessible (near kitchen and garage)
- Operate a fire extinguisher by using P.A.S.S. method: Pull the pin, aim at the base of fire, Squeeze, and Sweep the extinguisher side-to-side
- Inspect extinguishers annually: pin should be secure, pressure gauge reads green, and rotate extinguisher annually to loosen powder

Cooking Safety

- Never leave cooking unattended; set a timer as a reminder
- Cuff sleeves and turn pot handles inward when cooking to prevent burn injuries
- Do not store combustibles in oven or on top of stove
- Dispose of BBQ and fireplace ashes in metal container at least 3 feet away from combustibles

Develop & Practice A Home Escape Plan

- Have two exits out of every room (windows and doors)
- Remember to crawl low under smoke to escape fire
- Identify a safe meeting place outside
- Dial 9-1-1 from a neighbor's phone to report the fire
- Once you are out, STAY OUT!
- Practice your fire safety escape plan with everyone in the home every time you change smoke detector batteries

INSPECTION GUIDE INTENDED TO ASSIST PRIVATE RESIDENCES IDENTIFY AREAS TO IMPROVE FIRE SAFETY IN THE HOME.

➤ POINTS LISTED IN RED ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL RENTAL HOMES. PRIVATELY OWNED RESIDENCES ARE NOT INCLUDED.

A RESIDENTIAL CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY PERMIT MUST BE ISSUED PRIOR TO ANY NEW TENANT MOVE IN