# PROTECT WHAT MATTERS SM

## A National Guard **Emergency Management Bulletin**

## October 2020 **Volume FY20 Issue 1**



#### **Purpose**

The National Guard (NG) **Emergency Management (EM)** program is responsible for all activities and operations related to preparing for, mitigating the potential effect of, preventing, responding to, and recovering from all multi-agency and/or multijurisdictional emergencies on or impacting NG installations nationwide. The NG EM Program functions within an all-hazards environment consisting of all natural, technological (man-made), and terroristic hazards.

#### **Vision**

To provide the NG EM services when and where they are needed with the joint and interagency capacity necessary to effectively and efficiently protect the NG community and mission capabilities from all hazards.

#### Mission

To provide integrated and comprehensive NG EM services necessary to protect our community and mission capabilities from all hazards in a cost effective, implementable, and sustainable manner through resiliency.



#### IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

#### **EMERGENCY** Fire-Police-Ambulance 911

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Chris Letendre 225-319-4693 **GWLC EM Manager** christopher.a.letendre.nfg@mail.mil

318-382-4151 **MSG Robert Cooper Camp Minden EM Manager** robert.a.cooper33.nfg@mail.mil

**LA National Guard Joint Operation** Center 888-278-8748

**GOHSEP** 225-925-7500

**American Red Cross** 

1-800-RED-CROSS

**Federal Emergency Management** 1-800-621-FEMA Agency

**National Poison Control Center** 1-800-222-1222

**National Domestic Violence Hotline** 1-800-799-7233

#### LANG EM WEB PAGE:

http://geauxguard.la.gov/resources/emergency-management/



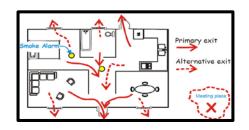




#### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**October is Fire Prevention Month!** The goal of Fire Prevention Month (and week October 4 - 10) is to raise fire safety awareness, and help ensure your home and Family has a plan and is ready for the unexpected. In 1922, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) named the second week of October Fire **Prevention Week in commemoration** of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871. Today, we celebrate Fire Prevention Week and Month by raising fire safety awareness and educating Families, students and communities across the United States. During this month, fire departments provide education to their communities, and encourage parents and loved ones to practice fire safety and whole home safety.

Please utilize the information in this month's bulletin to promote fire safety and prevention. The best time to prepare is before the event happens. Always Remember, "Be Prepared".



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## **National Fire Prevention Month**

#### **About Fire Prevention Week**

Since 1922, the NFPA has sponsored the public observance of Fire Prevention Week. In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed Fire Prevention Week a national observance, making it the longest-running public health observance in our country. During Fire Prevention Week, children, adults, and teachers learn how to stay safe in case of a fire. Firefighters provide lifesaving public education in an effort to drastically decrease casualties caused by fires.



Fire Prevention Week is observed each year during the week of October 9th in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire, which began on October 8, 1871, and caused devastating damage. This horrific conflagration killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures, and burned more than 2,000 acres of land.

The NEPA's 2020 campaign for Fire Safety Month is "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen." At First Alert, we are proud to support their mission and this year's theme to "Be Ready for the Unexpected', especially while cooking. For Fire Safety Month this year, First Alert is urging Families to improve their home's safety. Be ready at home by installing smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, as well as having fire extinguishers at home. First Alert is dedicated to helping protect what matters most because a home emergency can happen at any time, and we want to help you be ready.

#### **Did You Know?**

Fire Prevention week is the perfect time talk with your whole Family about fire safety – include testing alarms, changing the batteries or upgrading to 10-year sealed battery alarms, how to use a fire extinguisher and escape route planning.

- 3 of every 5 home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no working smoke alarms.
- Less than 50% of homeowners have an escape plan.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) is the #1 cause of accidental death
- 60% of consumers do not test their smoke and CO alarms monthly
- Only 47% of people report having CO alarms in their home
- Just 43% of homeowners have an escape plan
- Unattended cooking is the #1 cause of home fires.



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## **Why Early Detection Matters**

Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are you Families first line of defense when it comes to a fire or CO emergency. Having properly working alarms can help provide you and your Family with an early alert, giving you time to safely escape.

#### Did you know:

- Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless and poisonous gas
- Carbon monoxide poisoning is the second leading non-medical death
- 3 out of every 5 home fire deaths result from fires in homes without smoke alarms or any working smoke alarms
- In the fires where a smoke alarm was present, but did not operate, half of them had missing or disconnected batteries. But when a home does have working smoke alarms, it cuts the fatality risk in reported home fires in half
- Only 43% of homeowners have an escape plan.



Protect what matters most by installing reliable protection you can trust from First Alert. Not only can early detection help your Family safely escape a fire or CO emergency, but it can also help reduce the amount of damage done to your home. Click here for an educational smoke and CO brochure on why early detection matters. To protect your home and Family, we offer a variety of smoke and CO alarms to best suit your needs.

### **Early Detection for Your Home**

#### **Smoke Alarms**

Smoke alarms provide early warning in the event of an emergency We offer alarms for any type of home including hardwired, wireless, battery, and 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms. For added convenience, choose a 10-year sealed battery alarm for hassle-free protection for 10 years. First Alert 10-year sealed battery alarms eliminate the need for battery replacements for a decade and eliminate late night battery chirps. We also offer interconnected smoke alarms, so in the event of an emergency all alarms will sound as one.

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#### **Carbon Monoxide Alarms**

Carbon monoxide alarms are the only way to detect CO in your home and provide early warning to this deadly gas. First Alert offers a variety of CO alarms to meet your Family's needs, whether at home or on the go! Our convenient 10-year sealed battery table top alarm requires no installation and can simply be placed on a table top. It can even be taken with you while traveling! Another option is our plug-in CO alarms, which can be plugged into any standard electrical socket.

#### **Combination Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms**

A combination smoke and CO alarms provides 2-in-1 protection against both types of danger in your home. The combo alarm has a built in 10-year battery and voice and location features to alert you of a detected threat. Also, we offer alarms with our battery backup feature continues to protect your Family during power outages. Other features like voice and location alerts you to the type and location of danger in your home to help you escape safely.

#### **Placement and Maintenance**

Just having smoke and CO alarms is not enough. You also need to ensure they are properly placed throughout your home and functioning correctly. Smoke and CO alarms should be placed on every level of your home, including the basement, as well as inside and outside each sleeping area. Be sure to test your alarms regularly and replace the batteries every six months, unless you 10-year sealed battery alarms. Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years and CO alarms should be replaced every 5 to 7 years.



Smoke and CO alarms work around the clock, day and night, to alert you and your Family to a fire or CO emergency. Help protect what matters most by installing early detection in your home.

Having alarms is the first step to protecting your Family, the next is to create an emergency escape plan to help your Family safely escape. Learn more about escape planning and get our escape planning worksheet to help teach your children!

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# HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS



#### **WALK SAFELY**

- 1. Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.
- 2. Look left, right and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.
- 3. Put electronic devices down and keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street.
- 4. Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
- 5. Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.
- 6. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
- 7. Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.

#### TRICK OR TREAT WITH AN ADULT

Children under the age of 12 should not be alone at night without adult supervision. If kids are mature enough to be out without supervision, they should stick to familiar areas that are well lit and trick-or-treat in groups.

#### **KEEP COSTUMES BOTH CREATIVE AND SAFE**

- 1. Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
- 2. Choose face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision.
- 3. Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- 4. When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.

#### **DRIVE SAFELY ON HALLOWEEN**

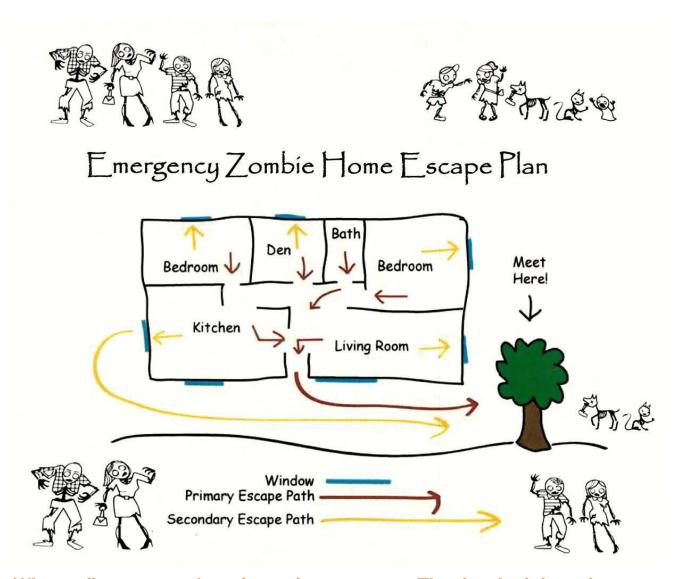
- 1. Slow down and be alert in residential neighborhoods. Excited children may move in unpredictable ways.
- 2. Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs.
- 3. Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully.
- 4. Eliminate distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
- 5. Drive slowly, anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic and turn your headlights on earlier in the day.
- **6.** Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 to 9:30 pm so be especially alert for kids during those hours

Source: www.safekids.org



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When a fire occurs, there is no time to waste. That is why it is so important to sit down with your Family today and make a step-by-step plan for escaping from a fire.

Draw a floor plan of your home marking two ways out of every room – especially sleeping areas. Discuss the escape routes with every member of your household. Agree on a meeting place outside your home where every member of the household will gather to wait for the fire department. This allows you to count heads and inform the fire department if anyone is trapped inside the burning building. Practice your escape plan at least twice a year. Have a fire drill in your home. Appoint someone to be a monitor and have everyone participate. A fire drill is not a race. Get out quickly, but carefully. Make your exit drill realistic. Pretend that some exits are blocked by fire and practice alternative escape routes. Pretend that the lights are out and that some escape routes are filled with smoke.

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You are in violation of TAG OPSEC Policy.

OPSEC is our first line of defense against hostile intelligence collection efforts.

Do not leave any unclassified hardware in an unattended computer.

Contact your
Supervisor to retrieve your
CAC after additional
training is conducted!