

NEWS RELEASE



Southern Platte Fire Protection District
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Southern Platte Fire Protection District Reminds Residents to Have an Escape Plan

Parkville, MO (Oct 1, 2019) It's time for Fire Prevention Week! October 6th-12th Southern Platte Fire Protection District is joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to remind local residents “Not every hero wears a cape. Plan and Practice your Escape.” During this year's fire safety campaign, firefighters and safety advocates will be spreading the word about the importance of having a plan to escape your home if a fire strikes and making sure that you practice that plan regularly.

Southern Platte Fire Protection District urges all residents to develop a plan and practice that plan at least twice a year.

Why home escape planning and practice matters:

- Home escape planning and practice ensure that everyone knows what to do in a fire and is prepared to escape quickly
- Today's homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds.
- When the smoke alarm sounds in a real fire, it's too late to start making a plan.

“In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds,” stated Deputy Chief Dean Cull. “**Escape planning and practice can help you make the most of the time you have**, giving everyone enough time to get out.”

Chief Cull further explained, in a fire, mere seconds can mean the difference between a safe escape and a tragedy. Fire safety education isn't just for school children. Teenagers,

adults, and the elderly are also at risk in fires, making it important for every member of the community to take some time every October during Fire Prevention Week to make sure they understand how to stay safe in case of a fire.

Presently, Southern Platte Fire, in conjunction with Heart of America Metro Fire Chiefs, offers residents free smoke detectors. "Southern Platte is proud to offer this outstanding program to the residents of not just Southern Platte County, but the entire metro region," Fire Chief Richard Carrizzo said. "It is important to get working smoke detectors in every living residence in the area."

Fire Prevention week will end with Southern Platte Fire hosting an open house at Station #3 on October 5, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The station is located at 10811 NW 45 Highway in Parkville, MO. Visitors can tour the fire station and see the fire trucks that protect their community. Firefighters will be on hand to answer questions and provide additional information on how you can protect yourself from fire.

Fire and life safety education activities are also planned, including a fire safety trailer where visitors can learn about common fire hazards. Activities for children include a firefighter obstacle course and a house where they can use small fire hoses to put out a simulated fire.

The Southern Platte Fire Protection District's four stations provide fire suppression, inspections, emergency medical assistance, hazardous-materials response, and public education for more than 38,000 citizens in Platte County, MO. The Southern Platte Fire Protection District, which includes Parkville, Weatherby Lake, and Farley, is one of the fastest-growing areas in the Kansas City metropolitan area. In addition to serving its own District, the department provides automatic-aid assistance to the Kansas City Fire Department and Riverside Public Safety.

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