

Media Release

October 3, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fire Prevention Week Every Second Counts - Plan two ways out!

You and your family are fast asleep when the smoke alarm sounds. Do you know what to do?

Fire Prevention Week is October 8 – 14, 2017, and the perfect time for Caledon Fire & Emergency Services to remind all households to develop a home escape plan together and practice it. A plan includes working smoke alarms on every level of the home, in every bedroom and near all sleeping areas. It also includes two ways out of every room, usually a door and a window, with a clear path to an outside meeting place (like a tree, light pole, or mailbox) - a safe distance from the home.

“In a typical home fire, you may have as little as a few minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. That’s why home escape planning is so critical in a fire situation. It ensures that everyone in the household knows how to use that small window of time wisely,” said Fire Chief Darryl Bailey. “This pre-planning is what everyone will draw upon to snap into action and escape as quickly as possible in the event of a fire.”

Home escape planning is one of the most basic but fundamental elements of home fire safety and can make the difference between life and death in a fire situation. Consider these additional tips and recommendations for developing and practicing a home escape plan:

- Draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can’t help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave — this may slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

“Where’s Sparky?” Contest

To keep fire safety top of mind, Caledon Fire & Emergency Services will be hosting a number of open houses at various fire stations, along with an online contest – the “Where’s Sparky?” contest - during Fire Prevention Week. “Where’s Sparky?” will test Caledon residents to correctly name Sparky’s location and be entered in a draw to win prizes. For more information about Fire Prevention Week activities in Caledon and the “Where’s Sparky” contest visit www.caledon/fire.



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Open Houses

There are a number of open houses scheduled for the month of October to recognize Fire Prevention Week. Residents are invited to attend and enjoy a complimentary pancake breakfast while learning more about general fire safety, making a home escape plan and house trailer safety. Below is a list of scheduled open houses. Details can be found at www.caledon.ca/calendar.

Saturday October 7, 2017	8 a.m. – Noon	28 Ann Street, Bolton
Sunday October 8, 2017	10 a.m. – Noon	2 Snelcrest Drive, Caledon
Saturday October 14, 2017	7 a.m. – 11 a.m.	19630 Main Street, Alton
Sunday October 15, 2017	9 a.m. – Noon	17177 Regional Road 50, Palgrave

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