



# Perry Township Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

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## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The Perry Township Fire Department wishes to Thank everyone who has supported us on our annual fund drive. We do appreciate your help.

If you have overlooked sending us your donation for 1989 and you still wish to help us, please send your Donation to:

Perry Township Fire Department, Inc.  
PO Box 7051,  
Evansville, IN 47712

Some of you may have asked yourself, "Why do they ask for a donation of \$25.00 or more?"

In order to continue to be a Modern Fire Department, it is necessary to update our equipment with the latest and safest equipment available. Federal and State Guidelines continually are changed to keep up with new Safety Rules that are issued by OSHA. These are not voluntary guidelines, but Rules that must be complied with. We are not given an alternative but must comply.

Insurance becomes more expensive each year, we pay in excess of \$20,000 each year for Insurance Coverage.

An idea of what it costs to run a Fire Department - a Fire Fighters equipment, which includes, Coat, Boots, Bunker Pants, Helmet, Hood, Radio, etc. costs in excess of \$1,000 per Fire Fighter.

Turnout equipment lasts about 3 to 5 years and must be replaced.

Fire Apparatus costs from \$50,000 for smaller Rescue Trucks to in excess of \$150,000 for each of the Pumpers.

This is just a few of the items we must have to operate efficiently and safely.

As you can see it takes a lot of Money to operate and we are very appreciative of your help in maintaining the Perry Township Fire Department.

THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR PAST AND PRESENT SUPPORT.

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PLAN TWO EXIT ROUTES FROM YOUR HOME AND PRACTICE THEM - REMEMBER:  
E.D.I.T.H. (Exit Drills In The Home)

WINTER FIRE SAFETY TIPS. . . . HEATING ALTERNATIVES

Now that temperatures are beginning to fall. Families throughout the community are preparing their homes for winter's chill. Since the Fuel crisis of the 1970's, fireplaces, wood-stoves and space heaters have become popular alternatives to central heating.

On the plus side, these alternate heating sources are less expensive to buy, install and run than central heating systems. On the minus side, they cause fires which cost hundreds of millions of dollars in property loss each year.

According to Chief John Barr of the Perry Twp Fire Department, most of these Fires are caused by human error, not mechanical Failure. He has these suggestions for those who use space heaters or wood stoves.

Use only safety listed equipment. Look for the UL label on all electric heaters, a UL or AGA label on gas appliances.

Never use fuel-burning appliances without proper vents to the outside. Burning fuel (kerosene, coal or propane, for example) produce deadly fumes.

Always use the proper fuel for your particular type of heater. When refueling an oil unit, avoid overfilling it, and never fill your heater while it is burning.

If you use an electric heater. be sure your house wiring is adequate.

Maintain adequate clearance in all directions around heaters and stoves away from halls and combustibles such as curtains, beds or other furniture. Use a screen around heaters with open Flames.

Chief Barr offers these tips for making sure your fireplace is safe this winter.

Never use flammable liquids to start or quicken a fire. Never burn charcoal in your fireplace, it gives off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.

Use a metal screen in front of your fireplace to keep burning embers inside.

Keep the size of your fire manageable. It is possible to ignite soot in the chimney by overbuilding the Fire.

Keep flammable materials off your mantle and well away from the fireplace.

Be sure the fire in the fireplace is out when you go to bed. Never close the damper while the ashes are still hot.

These few precautions, says Chief Barr, will help you enjoy the plus side of heating alternatives and avoid the minus side.

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WISH YOUR SMOKE DETECTOR A HAPPY BIRTHDAY, REPLACE THE BATTERY ONCE A YEAR

MERRY CHRISTMAS from all the members of the Perry Township Fire Department! We hope your holidays are both joyous and safe. We've provided the following safety tips to help you include fire safety in your holiday festivities.

1. Use a ball and burlap (living) tree for moisture retention.
2. If you buy a real tree make sure it is fresh.
3. Leave it outside until you are ready to decorate it.
4. Make a fresh cut in the trunk to facilitate water movement through the cells.
5. Add water to it daily to keep moisture in the tree.
6. Keep it in a cool place away from heat registers, fireplace or radiator.
7. Keep it out of the traffic area and away from stairways and doors.
8. Tie or otherwise secure the tree so it can't be knocked over by pets or small children.
9. Do not smoke near the tree.
10. Before using the lights on the tree, make sure they are UL listed. Never use more than three strings of lights on one circuit.
11. Make sure connections are tight and in good shape to prevent wire hangers and metal icicles from causing an electrical short.
12. Never put lights on a metal tree.
13. Take a live tree down as soon as it starts getting dry (when needles begin to fall). Don't take a chance.
14. Make sure there are no loose bulbs or frayed wires.
15. Be able to turn off the Christmas tree lights without reaching or crawling under the tree.
16. Do not leave the lights on if you leave the house or when going to bed.
17. If you have an artificial tree, be sure it is flame resistant.
18. Dispose of papers and boxes at once. Do not allow them to accumulate.
19. Don't burn papers, boxes, or Christmas trees in the fireplace.

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#### STREET NUMBERS

DO YOU HAVE A STREET NUMBER? WITH THE IMPLEMENTING OF THE ENHANCED 911 SYSTEM DURING 1990, EVERYONE MUST HAVE A STREET NUMBER ADDRESS FOR THE RESIDENCE. ENHANCED 911 WILL SHOW IMMEDIATELY WHEN YOU CALL WHAT YOUR ADDRESS IS, WHAT EMERGENCY SERVICE, FIRE, POLICE OR AMBULANCE, RESPONDS TO YOUR RESIDENCE AND YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER. IN ORDER FOR THIS TO BE ENTERED INTO THE 911 SYSTEM, STREET NUMBERS MUST BE USED. RURAL ROUTE NUMBERS WILL NO LONGER BE USED AND WE WILL NOT KNOW THE LOCATION OF YOUR RESIDENCE IF YOU USE A RURAL ROUTE NUMBER.

IF YOU HAVE NOT OBTAINED A STREET NUMBER, CALL THE AREA PLAN COMMISSION OFFICE AND THEY WILL ADVISE YOU WHAT IS NEEDED TO OBTAIN ONE.

AFTER YOU HAVE OBTAINED THIS NUMBER, BE SURE AND DISPLAY IT IN LARGE LETTERS ON YOUR MAILBOX OR THE FRONT OF YOUR HOME TO ASSIST ANY EMERGENCY SERVICE IN LOCATING IT, IF HELP IS NEEDED.

YOUR COOPERATION WILL BE APPRECIATED IN THIS MATTER.

WINTER WATER SAFETY

Summer is almost over and water sports are fading from everyone minds. Water safety also fades with half empty swimming pools and swimming suits being put away for the winter. Water safety is just as important now as it was in June. Only 40 per cent of drownings occur to people who were swimming or playing in the water. The remaining 60 per cent of drownings happen to people who fall from docks, boats, pool decks, people who break through ice while fishing, hunting, ice skating and other winter sports.

There is no one rule that can be applied to insure ice safety under all conditions. In general, ice may be considered on the basis of age. Newly formed ice is referred to as young ice. Ice that is firm and solid, as it is during a prolonged freeze, is known as good ice. Thawing ice is called old or rotten ice.

Young ice formed during the first freeze is tough and elastic and may crack, yet still support a small person. Young ice is unsafe until it is at least 2 inches thick, and even then it may not support a group. Ice must freeze to a uniform depth of 4 inches before it is the firm ice that is safe for a group. The old ice of spring that has been subjected to thaws is never safe for ice sports.

A great number of drownings occur to people who have no intentions of entering the water, and unexpectedly find themselves in the water, fully clothed, panic and drown. To avoid this happening to you, learn to recognize hazardous conditions, learn how to get out of dangerous situations and safe ways in which to aid persons requiring help in the water. If you accomplish learning these three tips, your days around water will be more enjoyable and safer.

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PLAY IT SAFE - KEEP CHIMNEYS CLEAN

DO YOU HAVE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER IN YOUR HOME? MOST FIRES START SMALL.

SMOKE DETECTORS AND FIRE EXTINGUISHERS MAKE EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS GIFTS!!!!!!!!!!!!

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P.O. Box 7051  
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