

- More than 3,400 die and more than 16,000 are injured each year in fires
- Fires often follow other disasters, especially earthquakes
- Fires spread quickly
- Heat and smoke can be more dangerous than flames
- Asphyxiation is the leading cause of fire deaths

## Facts About Fires

- Never use flammable liquids indoors
- Store flammable liquids in approved containers in well-ventilated areas
- Never smoke near flammable liquids
- Clean out cluttered areas
- ▶ Discard materials soaked in flammable liquids
- ▶ Ensure chimneys are properly insulated and maintained
- ▶ Be careful when using alternative heating sources

## Fire: Prevention

- Heaters
    - Place heaters at least 3' feet from flammable materials
    - Use only the fuel designated for your heater
  - Fireplaces:
    - Store ashes in a metal container
    - Keep open flame away from walls, furniture, drapery
- ▶ Put a screen in front of the fireplace
  - ▶ Furnace
    - ▶ Have heating units inspected and cleaned annually
  - ▶ Matches, Smoking
    - ▶ Keep matches and lighters away from children
    - ▶ Never smoke in bed
  - ▶ Electrical
    - ▶ Properly maintain electrical wiring, extension cords, and outlets

## Fire: Prevention

- Install smoke alarms on every level of the home
- Test and clean alarms monthly
- 10 year batteries/lifespan
- Smoke alarm assistance
- Dispose of smoke detectors in trash
- Install carbon monoxide alarms every level



## FIRE: SMOKE & CO ALARMS

- Consider an automatic fire sprinkler system
- Install A-B-C fire extinguishers and learn how to use them
  - Maintain extinguishers per manufacturer's directions
  - Discard & replace expired extinguishers



## Fire: Suppression

- ▶ Review and practice escape routes with your family
- ▶ Make sure windows open easily
- ▶ Consider escape ladders
- ▶ Teach family members to stay low to the floor
- ▶ Sleep with bedroom doors closed

## Fire: Escape Routes

- To escape a fire:

- Check closed doors with back of hand before opening
- Crawl low under smoke to the exit
- Close doors behind you
- **Once out—stay out—do not reenter-call 911**

- If your clothes catch on fire:

- Stop, drop, and roll



During a Fire