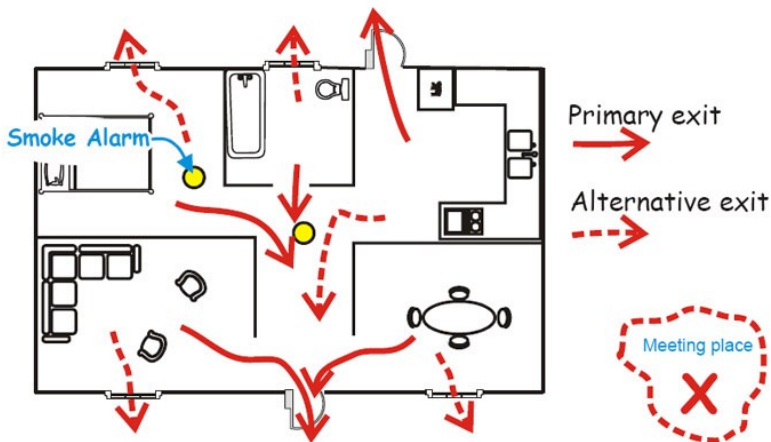


# The Office of Fire Safety and Injury Prevention



Your child participates in a once-a-month fire drill at their school. Below is information on how you can plan and practice a fire drill at home.



**STEP 1 Install Smoke Alarms** inside every bedroom, outside the sleeping areas and on every floor of your home.

## STEP 2 Plan and Draw a Family Escape Plan

- Map out two exits from every room.
- Make sure that windows can be opened quickly.
- Make sure exits are kept clear, not blocked.

**STEP 3 Designate a Safe Meeting Spot** in the **front** of the home (not the neighbor's house or down the street).

**STEP 4 Practice Your Plan!!!!** Practice exiting the home and getting to your Safe Meeting Spot.

## What to do if you are trapped in a fire:

- In a fire, crawl low on the floor with your mouth and nose covered with a cloth or towel until you can exit.
- Stop, Drop and Roll if your clothes catch fire while exiting.
- If in a room, go to the door and feel with the back of your hand. If hot, use second exit. If trapped, go to the window and wait to be rescued. You can also hang a sheet from the window to indicate the need for a rescue.

## WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT

Each year more than **2,500 people die** and 12,600 are injured in home fires in the United States. Here is what you need to know about home fires:

**Fire is fast!** There is no time to gather anything or make a phone call. In just two minutes, a fire could kill you in your home. In less than five minutes, a house could be swallowed in flames.

**Fire is hot!** Heat and smoke could be even more dangerous than the flames. Breathing in really hot air could burn your lungs, and fire produces poisonous gases that can make you sleepy and unable to escape.

**Fire is dark!** It can be hard to find your way out of your house in a fire. Smoke is dark and can burn your eyes.

**Fire is deadly!** Fire uses up oxygen you need to breathe and produces smoke and poisonous gases that kill.

For more information, please contact Sharon New, Anne Arundel County Fire Marshal's office, 2660 Riva Road, Annapolis, 21401 or call 410.222.8303 or email [fd009612@aacounty.org](mailto:fd009612@aacounty.org). Download a Home Safety Survey at [www.aacounty.org/fire](http://www.aacounty.org/fire).