



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Karen Eubanks, Public Information Officer; (503) 642-0350

(Summertime Safety for Stay-at-Home Children)

With the end of school in sight, many children will soon be staying home alone during the day. Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue encourages working parents to help keep their children safe this summer by reviewing the following fire and life safety tips with them.

- Place phone numbers for family and nearby neighbors where they can be quickly referenced.
- Know when to call 9-1-1 for police, fire, or medical assistance.
- Never play with matches or lighters, or light candles.
- Base cooking privileges on the age and maturity of the child. Parents may wish to prepare a meal that doesn't require cooking or limit cooking to the microwave oven (rather than the stovetop). Remind children to always supervise food while it's being heated. Never allow cooking oil to be used.
- Limit the use of curling irons and hair straighteners to the bathroom to avoid the risk of these appliances coming into contact with bedding, carpet, or other combustibles.
- A helmet reduces the chances of a brain injury by 85%. Remind your child to always wear a helmet when biking or boarding. For proper fitting tips, visit TVF&R's website.
- Certain cleaning products if mixed can produce toxic gas. Identify the *approved* cleaning products if your children are responsible for cleaning tasks.
- Have first-aid supplies available for small cuts and scrapes. Consider first-aid and CPR classes.
- Have working smoke alarms throughout your home and identify two escape routes from every room. Practice your plan.
- Discuss rules of use surrounding swimming pools, hot tubs, trampolines, and gasoline-fueled equipment at your home and at the home of friends and family.
- Put matches and lighters up out of reach of children.

For more safety tips, visit TVF&R's website at tvfr.com.