

Bi-Weekly Safety Tool Box Talks
James Peterson Sons, Inc.
JPS, Inc. Utility Division
Buteyn-Peterson Construction Co., Inc.
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National Fire Prevention Week: Preventing Home Fires

According to the National Fire Protection Association, in 2006 there were 396,000 reported home structure fires resulting in 2,580 deaths and 12,500 injuries. That's why during this year's Fire Prevention Week, from October 5th through October 11th, fire safety advocates across the country will educate their communities about how to prevent the leading causes of home fires.

Home fires are devastating. Imagine leaving your home for the day and returning to find nothing left but a pile of smoldering rubble. You can lose everything you've worked hard for and everything you treasure—your clothes, furniture, family heirlooms, pictures, your car, and sometimes even your pets and your family.

Take time during Fire Prevention Week to focus on preventing fires in your home. Keep your home safe by following these fire prevention tips:

- Install and maintain smoke alarms in every bedroom, areas outside bedrooms, and on every level of the home.
- Install and maintain carbon monoxide alarms to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Test smoke alarms monthly and change batteries twice a year.
- Post emergency phone numbers near your telephone.
- Teach children when and how to dial 911 in an emergency.
- Practice emergency drills with your whole family.
- If your home catches fire, get out and stay out.

- Teach everyone the "Stop, Drop, and Roll" technique in case clothing ever catches fire.
- Never leave your cooking, grilling, or broiling unattended.
- Turn off portable space heaters when you go to bed and when you leave your home.
- Don't leave your clothes dryer on when you're not home.
- Clean your dryer's vent and lint filter before each use.
- Keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children.
- Replace cracked or damaged electrical cords.
- If you smoke, never smoke in bed.
- Store flammables in approved containers.
- Use flashlights for emergency lighting instead of candles.
- Have your furnace and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year.

Fire prevention is also important on construction sites. Practice good housekeeping. Shut equipment down before refueling. Properly dispose of oily rags on a daily basis. Make sure you know where the nearest fire extinguisher is located. Never smoke near flammable fumes or materials.

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SAFETY REMINDER
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Fire Prevention Week comes around just once a year.
Practicing fire prevention needs to happen all year long!

Safety Manual Reference: *Page 13 Para.6.2 Fire Protection & Prevention*

I have read the above safety topic.

Employee Name: _____ Date: _____

Employee Signature: _____

"Return after reading and signing to the office with your time card"