
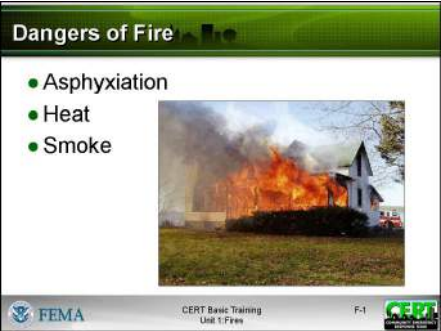
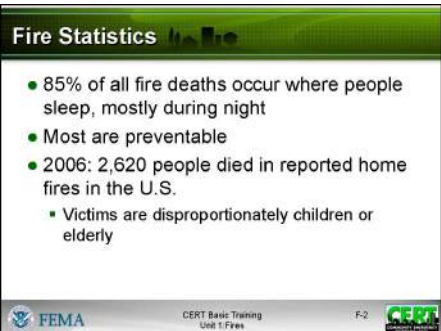

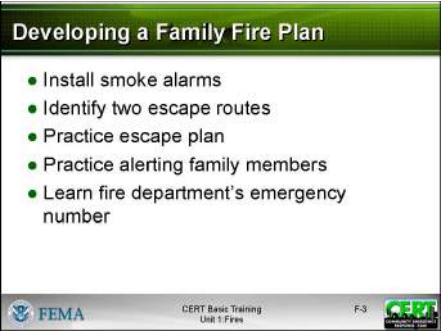



Fire

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE	CONTENT
	<p>Fire</p> <p>Explain that in 2006 fire killed more Americans than all natural disasters combined. Additionally, fire resulted in direct property damages in excess of 11 billion dollars.</p>
<p>Display Slide F-0</p> 	<p>Elaborate on the dangers that fires pose, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Asphyxiation: Asphyxiation is the leading cause of death in a fire, by a three-to-one ratio over burns.▪ Heat: A fully developed room fire has temperatures over 1,100 degrees Fahrenheit.▪ Smoke: Fire generates black, impenetrable smoke that blocks the vision, stings the eyes, and clogs the lungs. It may be impossible to navigate through such smoke.
<p>Display Slide F-1</p> 	<p>Fires in the Home</p> <p>Point out that roughly 85 percent of all fire deaths occur where people sleep, such as in homes, dormitories, barracks, or hotels. The majority of fatal fires occur when people are less likely to be alert, such as during nighttime sleeping hours.</p>
<p>Display Slide F-2</p>	<p>Stress that nearly all home and other building fires are preventable, even arson fires. The majority of arson fires are caused by juveniles who often respond to counseling, and the rest can be deterred in a number of ways. <u>No fire is inevitable.</u></p>

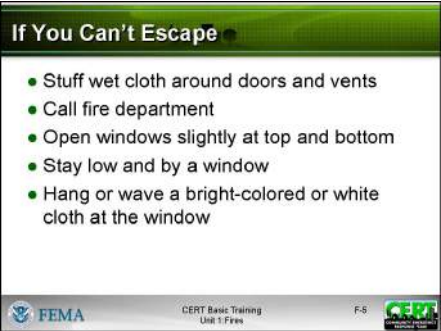

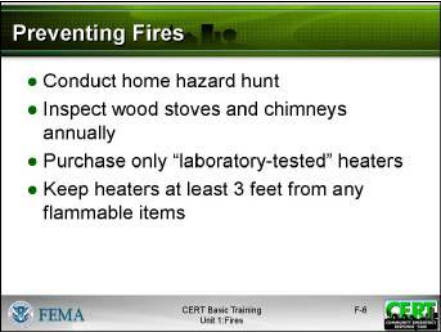
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
FIRE

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE	CONTENT
 <p>Allow the participants time to respond.</p>  <p>Display Slide F-3</p>	<p>Tell the group that in 2006, 2,620 people died in reported home fires in the United States—about 7 people per day. In addition, thousands of people were injured in home fires, many with severe burns (USFA).</p> <p>Point out that fire victims are disproportionately children or the elderly. One out of every four fires that kill young children is started by children playing with fire (NFPA 2003).</p> <p>Approximately 900 senior citizens die in fires annually.</p> <p>What steps have you taken to prepare for fires in your home?</p> <p>Stress that the key to fire preparedness is a family fire plan. Every family fire plan should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Smoke alarms</u> on every level of the home and near all sleeping areas.▪ <u>Two escape routes</u> from every room in the home. Escape ladders should be a consideration for sleeping areas on upper floors. These ladders should be stored near windows.▪ <u>Practice the escape plan</u> at least twice each year. Practice getting out both day and night. Practice escapes should include low-crawl escapes, ensuring that all family members' heads are one to two feet above the floor. As part of escape planning, select a safe area outside the home for the family to gather after escaping the fire. Ensure that all know to meet at that place so, when firefighters arrive, they can be notified quickly of family status.▪ <u>Practice alerting family members</u> by yelling "Fire!" several times. In a real fire, this alert may help family members escape.

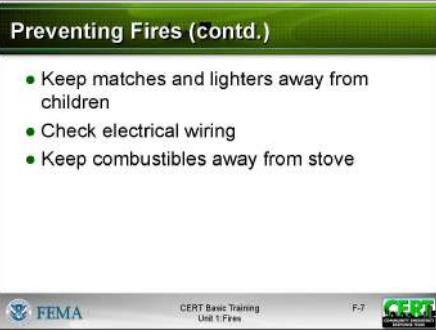

**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
FIRE**

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE	CONTENT
<p data-bbox="240 806 315 877"></p> <p data-bbox="240 915 643 978">Allow the participants time to respond.</p> <div data-bbox="240 1020 675 1348"><p data-bbox="240 1381 493 1415">Display Slide F-4</p><p data-bbox="240 1453 587 1499">http://www.chattanooga.gov/Images_Editor/DSC_2003.jpg</p></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="706 365 1510 541">▪ <u>Learn the fire department's emergency number</u>, especially if the community does not have 9-1-1 service. Make sure that all family members know to escape the fire first, then call the fire department from a neighbor's home. <p data-bbox="706 583 1510 760">Stress the importance of discussing with the entire family what to do in a fire. Every family member needs to know what to do in case the entire family is not together when a fire occurs. Also, awareness helps to reduce fear and ensures that all family members know what to do.</p> <p data-bbox="706 810 1448 844">What should you do if a fire starts in your home?</p> <p data-bbox="706 1024 1419 1092">Stress that, if the participants see a fire or hear the smoke alarm, they should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="706 1113 1500 1218">▪ <u>Yell "Fire!" several times and exit quickly.</u> Never use an elevator when escaping a fire. Other points to remember include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="755 1239 1477 1306">• If escaping through smoke, crawl low, under the smoke.<li data-bbox="755 1327 1500 1470">• If escaping through a closed door, look first at the door. If air is being sucked under the door or smoke is seeping out the top of the door, <u>do not open the door.</u><li data-bbox="755 1491 1500 1671">• If there is no sucking air or escaping smoke, feel the door with the back of the hand, as well as the space between the door and its frame and the doorknob before opening the door. <u>Never open a door that feels hot.</u><li data-bbox="706 1692 1500 1873">▪ <u>Go to the agreed upon meeting place</u>, then send one person to call the fire department. Gathering at the meeting place first will quickly indicate who is outside and allow family members to advise firefighters immediately when they arrive.

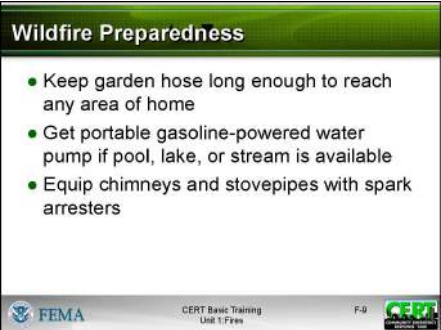
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
FIRE

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE	CONTENT
 <p>If You Can't Escape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stuff wet cloth around doors and vents• Call fire department• Open windows slightly at top and bottom• Stay low and by a window• Hang or wave a bright-colored or white cloth at the window <p>FEMA CERT Basic Training Unit 1: Fire F-5</p> <p>Display Slide F-5</p>  <p>Allow the participants time to respond.</p>	<p>Tell the group that, if smoke, heat, or flames block all exit routes, they should stay in the room with the door closed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Stop up areas where smoke could come in</u> using wet towels, sheets, or clothes under doors and in vents.▪ <u>Call the fire department</u> and tell them where you are—even if the fire department has already been called.▪ <u>Open windows slightly at top and bottom</u> to allow smoke to exit and fresh air to enter the room.▪ <u>Stay low and near a window</u> to breathe fresh air.▪ <u>Hang or wave a bright-colored or white cloth</u> at the window to signal the fire department when they arrive. <p>What can you do to prevent a fire in your home?</p> <p>Suggest that the participants:</p>
 <p>Preventing Fires</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct home hazard hunt• Inspect wood stoves and chimneys annually• Purchase only "laboratory-tested" heaters• Keep heaters at least 3 feet from any flammable items <p>FEMA CERT Basic Training Unit 1: Fire F-6</p> <p>Display Slide F-6</p>	<p>Suggest that the participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Conduct a home hazard hunt</u>. Many items and conditions around the home can present fire hazards. Taking time to look for and eliminate hazards will reduce the risk.▪ <u>Inspect wood stoves and chimneys annually</u>. Burning wood leaves creosote deposits which are flammable in the firebox, flue, and chimney. These buildups must be removed professionally to minimize the risk of fire.▪ <u>Purchase heaters only if they have been laboratory tested and approved</u>. Follow the manufacturer's directions for use. Keep blankets, clothing, curtains, furniture, and any other flammable items at least 3 feet away from heat sources. Plug heaters directly into a wall socket, and unplug them when they are not in use.

**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
FIRE**

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE	CONTENT
<p data-bbox="240 359 673 688">A presentation slide titled "Preventing Fires (contd.)" with a green header. It lists three bullet points: "Keep matches and lighters away from children", "Check electrical wiring", and "Keep combustibles away from stove". The slide includes FEMA and CERT logos and the text "CERT Basic Training Unit 1: Fires F-7".</p> <p data-bbox="240 720 493 758">Display Slide F-7</p> <p data-bbox="240 1045 673 1226">The next section covers wildfires. Do not present this section unless the participants live or work in areas that are at high risk of wildfires.</p> <p data-bbox="240 1266 673 1593">A presentation slide titled "3 Classes of Wildfires" with a green header. It lists three bullet points: "Surface fire", "Ground fire", and "Crown fire". To the right of the text is a photograph of a wildfire. The slide includes FEMA and CERT logos and the text "CERT Basic Training Unit 1: Fires F-8".</p> <p data-bbox="240 1625 493 1663">Display Slide F-8</p> <p data-bbox="240 1717 623 1787">http://www.community.gov.yk.ca/images/2005_strcutpro_big.jpg</p>	<ul data-bbox="706 373 1502 842" style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Keep matches and lighters away from children.</u> Children are fascinated by fire and will play with matches and lighters if they are available.▪ <u>Check electrical wiring,</u> and replace frayed extension cords, exposed wires, or loose plugs. Ensure that all outlets have cover plates, and avoid overloading outlets or extension cords.▪ <u>Keep combustible materials away from the stove,</u> including towels, clothing, curtains, bags, boxes, and other appliances. Combustible materials near stoves can catch fire quickly while the cook's attention is elsewhere. <p data-bbox="706 863 1479 1003">Point out that these are only a few suggestions for preventing fires. Additional suggestions, including how to select and use fire extinguishers, will be covered in Unit 2, Fire Safety.</p> <p data-bbox="706 1045 1495 1115">Transition to wildfires by telling the group that they need to prepare for outdoor fires as well as fires in the home.</p> <p data-bbox="706 1283 841 1320">Wildfires</p> <p data-bbox="706 1388 1463 1425">Tell the group that there are three classes of wildfires:</p> <ul data-bbox="706 1446 1502 1766" style="list-style-type: none">▪ A <u>surface fire</u> is the most common type of fire and burns along the floor of a forest, moving slowly and killing or damaging trees.▪ A <u>ground fire</u> is usually started by lightning and burns on or below the forest floor in the humus layer down to the mineral soil.▪ <u>Crown fires</u> spread rapidly by wind and move quickly by jumping along the tops of trees. <p data-bbox="706 1787 1495 1887">Point out that wildfires often begin unnoticed and that many fires can spread quickly, igniting brush, trees, and homes.</p>

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
FIRE

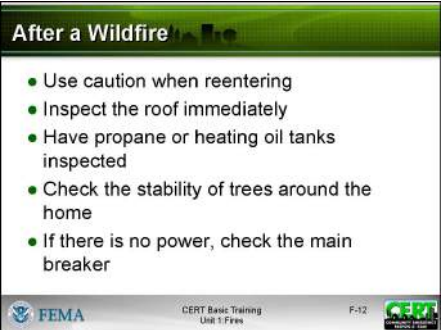
INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE	CONTENT
 <p>Wildfire Preparedness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep garden hose long enough to reach any area of home• Get portable gasoline-powered water pump if pool, lake, or stream is available• Equip chimneys and stovepipes with spark arresters <p>FEMA CERT Basic Training Unit 1:Fire F-9</p>	<p>Tell the group that because more people are choosing to make their homes in woodland settings in or near forests, rural areas, or remote mountain sites, a greater percentage of the population is becoming vulnerable to the hazards of wildfire.</p> <p>Explain that more than four out of every five forest fires are started by people. Negligent human behavior, such as smoking in forested areas or improperly extinguishing campfires, is the cause of many forest fires.</p> <p>Point out that improper design, combustible materials and landscaping, and lack of attention to weed abatement in woodland residential areas, contribute to the hazard to humans and animals.</p> <p>Explain that some of the strategies for wildfire preparedness are the same as for fires in the home, and that developing a family fire escape plan will be helpful for wildfires as well as fires in the home. In the case of wildfires, some additional strategies are required.</p> <p>Tell the group that they should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Keep a garden hose that is long enough to reach any area of the home</u> and other structures. Buy a ladder that is high enough to reach the roof.▪ <u>If a pool, lake, or stream is available, consider obtaining a portable gasoline-powered water pump.</u>▪ <u>Equip chimneys and stovepipes with spark arresters.</u>▪ <u>Keep fire tools handy.</u> Fire tools include shovels, rakes, axes, chain or handsaws, buckets, and one or more fire extinguishers.

Display Slide F-9

**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
FIRE**

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE	CONTENT
<div data-bbox="237 363 675 690" data-label="Image"> <p>Wildfire Preparedness (contd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Keep fire tools handy ● Use proper building and landscape design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Create "defensible space" or "safety zone" ■ Use fireproof or fire resistant roofing <p>FEMA CERT Basic Training Unit 1: Fires F-10</p> </div> <p>Display Slide F-10</p> <div data-bbox="237 1119 315 1192" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Allow the participants time to respond.</p> <div data-bbox="237 1388 675 1715" data-label="Image"> <p>During a Wildfire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Listen for emergency information ● Confine pets to one room or arrange for them to stay with a friend or relative ● Move flammable furniture to the center of the home ● Remove flammable drapes and curtains ● Close all doors and windows <p>FEMA CERT Basic Training Unit 1: Fires F-11</p> </div> <p>Display Slide F-11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <u>Use proper building and landscape design.</u> Wildland fire experts recommend that flammable vegetation be cleared to a distance of at least 30 feet around the home. This is commonly referred to as a "defensible space" or "safety zone." Experts also recommend the use of fireproof or fire resistant roofing in areas where wildfires are a hazard. <p>Point out that additional strategies for wildfire preparedness include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <u>Marking all driveway entrances</u> so that firefighters are aware that the home is there and can find it quickly during a fire. ■ <u>Following all local burning laws.</u> Never burn during dry weather or within 75 feet of a structure or combustibles. <u>Never leave a fire unattended</u>, not even a cigarette. <p>Explain that, despite best efforts, wildfires will still occur.</p> <p>What should you do during a wildfire?</p> <p>Tell the group that there are several measures that they should take inside the home to prevent damage from wildfire.</p> <p>Describe for the group the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <u>Listen for emergency information</u> on radio or television stations or the Emergency Alert System (EAS). If advised to evacuate, do so immediately. Delay increases the risk of being trapped by the fire and can interfere with fire department response. ■ <u>Confine pets</u> to one room or arrange for them to stay with a friend or relative.

**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
FIRE**

INSTRUCTOR GUIDANCE	CONTENT
 <p>Display Slide F-12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Move flammable furniture</u> to the center of the home, away from windows and sliding glass doors. ▪ <u>Remove flammable drapes and curtains.</u> Close venetian blinds and noncombustible window treatments. ▪ <u>Close all doors and windows</u> to reduce air flow. <p>Stress that, if trapped by a wildfire, the participants should try to find a body of water to crouch in. If possible, cover the head and upper body with wet clothing. If a body of water is not accessible, look for shelter in a cleared area or within a rock bed. Breathe the air close to the ground, preferably through a dry cloth.</p> <p>Urge the participants to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Use caution when reentering</u> the area after a wildfire. Hazards may still exist, including hot spots, which can flare up without warning. ▪ <u>Inspect the roof immediately</u> and extinguish sparks or embers that could reignite the fire. ▪ <u>Have propane or heating oil tanks inspected</u> by the supplier before using the system. Tanks may shift or fall from their stands or fuel lines may have kinked or weakened. Heat from the fire may have caused the tank to warp or bulge (especially if the tank is not vented). ▪ <u>Check the stability of trees around the home.</u> They may have lost stability as a result of fire damage. Also, identify and mark ash pits (created by burned trees and stumps). Falling into a hot ash pit can cause serious burns. ▪ <u>If there is no power, check the main breaker.</u> Fires may cause breakers to trip. If the breakers are on and power is still not available, call the utility company.

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