



Southern Manatee Fire Rescue

Press Release

Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District Communications
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Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District Reminds Residents: “Every Second Counts – Plan 2 Ways Out”

This year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign, “Every Second Counts – Plan 2 Ways Out”. In a fire, seconds count. Seconds can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their lives end in tragedy.

Learn more about creating a “Home Escape Plan” and many other life-saving tips and experience our Fire Safety House with smoke filled rooms and learn how to escape.

Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District is joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) during **Fire Prevention Week, October 8-14**, to remind local residents about the importance developing and practicing a “Home Escape Plan” and of having working smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.

This year’s safety theme will focus on these key messages:

- Draw a map of your home by using grid paper with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can’t help them.
- Make sure the address of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don’t respond properly.
- Make sure you know how old all the smoke alarms are in your home.
- To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm, the alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date.

To kick off this year’s Fire Prevention Week, the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District will be hosting an **Open House on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at Fire Station #3 located at 7611 Prospect Road**. Our Open House will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m. During this time period there will be various Fire,

Hazardous Materials and EMS apparatus on display, live demonstrations by your firefighters with various lifesaving equipment, smoke alarm demonstrations in our safety house, and free educational material over fire and life safety tips. There will also be displays from the Division of Forestry and other emergency responders.

To find out more about our Open House for Fire Prevention Week, please contact Fire Marshal Leslie Adent at 751-7675. To learn more about **“Every Second Counts – Plan 2 Ways Out”!** visit NFPA’s Web site at www.firepreventionweek.org.

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