

Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District News Letter

941-751-7675

ICE In Case of Emergency

ICE stands for In Case of Emergency.

Write your emergency contact numbers on a ICE tag or in your cell phone so first responders know who to call if you cannot tell them. Keep your ICE tag somewhere visible such as a key chain or dog tag.



Medical Oxygen Safety

The use of portable medical oxygen in the home has grown over the years. Medical oxygen adds a higher percentage of oxygen to the air a patient uses to breathe. Fire needs oxygen to burn. **If a fire should start in an oxygen enriched area, the material burning will burn more quickly.** Here are some quick fire safety rules to follow when using oxygen:

A patient on oxygen should not smoke! There is no safe way to smoke in a home using oxygen.

Candles, wood stoves and matches are an ignition source and should not be used in the home.

Keep oxygen cylinders at least five feet away from any heat source, open flame or electrical device.

Body oil, hand lotion and items containing oil or grease may easily ignite. Keep these items away where oxygen is used.

Never use aerosol sprays containing combustible materials near oxygen.

Smoke Alarms for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Smoke Alarms save lives. However people who are deaf or hard of hearing may not be able to depend on the traditional smoke alarm to alert them of a fire.

Smoke Alarms or alert devices are called accessories. Strobe lights connected to the smoke alarms activate to alert people who are deaf of a fire.

When deaf people are asleep, besides the high intensity strobe light, a pillow or bed shaker is needed to wake them up and alert them of a fire condition. Bed and pillow shakers are activated by the sound of a standard smoke alarm.

Recent research has shown that a loud, mixed low pitched sound is more effective for waking people of all ages than the high pitched sound of traditional smoke alarms. As people age, their ability to hear high pitched sounds decreases.

You can find this equipment by searching websites of First Alert, Gentex and Kidde brands. For the Bed/pillow shakers search lifetonesafety.com; safewake.com;



Did you know?

Smoking material is the leading heat source resulting in medical oxygen related fires, injuries and deaths