



For Immediate Release

September 30, 2009

Governor Sean Parnell signs Fire Prevention Month Proclamation

Governor Sean Parnell signed a proclamation announcing October 2009 as “**Fire Prevention Month**” in Alaska. Governor Parnell signed and presented the proclamation to Alaska State Fire Marshal David Tyler Wednesday September 23rd during opening ceremonies at the annual Alaska Firefighters Association / Alaska Fire Chiefs Association Joint Conference in Anchorage. Fire Marshal Tyler stressed the importance for all Alaskans to practice fire safety and introduced this year's Fire Prevention Month theme “**Stay Fire Smart, Don't Get Burned**”.

Fire Departments throughout the State will be conducting fire safety and prevention programs in schools and public gatherings focusing on this year's theme. You can help by ensuring your home is fire safe.

- Have your heating system inspected
- Do not overload electrical circuits
- Do not leave cooking unattended
- Keep portable heaters at least 36 inches from combustible materials
- Inspect heat tapes for proper installation and possible wear
- Inspect all extension cords for wear before using
- Keep matches and lighters locked up out of children's reach
- Keep candles away from combustibles and in stable holders
- Discard smoking materials in safe fire proof ashtrays

Following these simple tips can prevent a fire from starting. Having working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms is important in case a fire does happen. Install, test and maintain your alarms to alert you in case of a fire. Remember that a home fire suppression sprinkler system in conjunction with working smoke alarms gives you the best chance to survive a fire in your home.

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