



## HOME SAFETY PAMPHLET

### Welcome to the Borough of Kennett Square!

The mission of the borough's Code Enforcement Department is to enhance the overall public safety and welfare of everyone who lives, works, and visits the Borough of Kennett Square. We do this by implementing and enforcing the codes and ordinances adopted by the borough.

We understand that ensuring the safety of our community can't be accomplished without your help. That is why we've put together this home safety pamphlet.

Please take the time to read this pamphlet and follow these easy steps toward making your home and community a safer place.

- ◇ **INSTALL SMOKE ALARMS ON EVERY LEVEL OF YOUR HOME, IN EACH BEDROOM AND IN HALLWAYS OUTSIDE OF SLEEPING AREAS**
  - Test your alarms monthly and change the batteries twice a year (a good time to remember is when you change your clocks as daylight savings time begins and ends).
- ◇ **INSTALL CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS NEAR SLEEPING AREAS AND IN THE VICINITY OF FOSSIL FUEL BURNING HEATERS OR FIREPLACES.**
  - Carbon monoxide is an odorless gas that can kill you. It is found in fumes produced any time fossil fuel is burned (such as natural gas, oil, propane, kerosene, wood or coal).
- ◇ **HAVE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER QUICKLY AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE (MUST BE ANNUALLY INSPECTED AND APPROVED).**
- ◇ **MISUSE OF EXTENSION CORDS CAN BE DANGEROUS:**
  - Too many appliances plugged into an extension cord can cause it to overheat and start a fire.
  - Extension cords can not be used as a permanent source of electricity.
  - Remove cords or wires that cross walkways or pass under rugs.
- ◇ **DO NOT BLOCK OR STORE ITEMS IN FRONT OF YOUR ELECTRICAL PANEL.**
- ◇ **KEEP A BULB IN ALL LIGHT FIXTURES (EVEN A BURNED OUT BULB) TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK.**
- ◇ **CLEAN YOUR CLOTHES DRYER LINT FILTER AFTER EACH USE AND THE DRYER DUCT AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR TO PREVENT FIRE.**
- ◇ **NEVER STORE PROPANE, GASOLINE OR GASOLINE POWERED EQUIPMENT INSIDE YOUR HOME**
- ◇ **NEVER PLACE FLAMMABLE MATERIAL ON OR NEAR A HOT WATER HEATER OR HEATING SYSTEM (INCLUDING ELECTRIC BASEBOARD HEAT).**
- ◇ **REDUCE CLUTTER AND KEEP WALKWAYS AND EXITS CLEAR**
  - Keeping walkways and exits clear at all times will allow emergency response personnel easier access when needed most.
- ◇ **REDUCE THE RISK OF PEST INFESTATION (LIKE ANTS, COCKROACHES AND BED BUGS):**
  - Do not leave food out, uncovered and unattended.
  - Clean up food and water spills right away.
  - Store food and trash in tightly sealed containers.
  - Carefully inspect second-hand furniture (especially beds and mattresses) for bed bugs before bringing them into your home.
- ◇ **KEEP THE EXTERIOR PROPERTY AND INTERIOR STRUCTURES FREE OF ALL RUBBISH AND GARBAGE**
  - Piles of rubbish and garbage attract disease carrying rats and insects!
- ◇ **THE PLUMBING CAN HANDLE TOILET PAPER.**
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