




OHIO FIRE FACTS

2008 - 1st Half Statistics

 **Historically in Ohio, SMOKING is the leading cause of residential fire fatalities.**

- Smoking 18%
- Cooking 10%
- Arson 9%
- Children Playing 7%
- Heating 6%

So far this year the number of fatalities due to Arson is higher—at least 13 people have died as a result of Arson (15%).

 **Through June 13, 2008, 65 Fires have claimed the lives of 88 people in Ohio—there were 61 in 2007 during the same time period.**

- Working smoke detectors were present in only 16%.
- In at least two of the fatal fires where working smoke detectors were present and activated, they were in an area that was not beneficial to the occupant.

 **Working smoke detectors should be placed on every level of the home and inside each sleeping area.**

- The State Fire Marshal recommends a mix of ionization and photoelectric smoke detectors. However, any working smoke detector is better than no smoke detector.
- Do not remove batteries in smoke detectors, other than to change them every six months.

 **Practice home fire escape plans.**

- Everyone in the home should know at least two ways out.
- Make special arrangements for small children and seniors who may live in the home.
- Teach children not to be afraid of firefighters and not to hide from them during a fire.

 **How to reduce the number of fatal fires:**

- Extinguish smoking materials properly. Do not smoke in bed or while intoxicated.
- Do not leave anything on the stove or in the oven unattended.
- Keep all matches and lighters away from children. Teach them about the dangers of fire.
- Be careful when using space and portable heaters. Keep all combustibles at least 3 feet away.
- Do not overload electrical outlets or overuse extension cords.