



# The TRUMPET

## Celebrate Summer

### In this Issue...

- **Fireworks & Other Summer Safety Tips**
- **Emergency Response to Severe Weather & Flooding in Kansas**
- **Fire Safety Poster Contest Winners**

## FROM THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Summer is upon us, and while everyone is enjoying the warm weather and outdoor activities and celebrating our nation's independence, I want to remind Kansans to follow our fire safety tips included in this issue. A few simple precautions can prevent serious injuries and property damage in most circumstances.

We are pleased to welcome Tom Sparling and Dirk Christian to our leadership team at OSFM. As you will see in the article on page 4, Dirk didn't have much time to settle in before being tasked with leading some of our Emergency Response teams in several serious, weather-related deployments in May. Our Task Force teams and Dirk did an outstanding job responding to the communities that were affected by the severe weather.

I am also happy to share our Fire Safety Poster Contest winners and the photos of their experience meeting Governor Kelly and showcasing their artwork at the Capitol.

Thank you for reading the June issue of *The Trumpet*. We hope you will enjoy this issue and please share it with friends, family and co-workers. And as always, if you have any ideas or proposals that could benefit our mutual efforts to create a safer Kansas, please contact me at [doug.jorgensen@ks.gov](mailto:doug.jorgensen@ks.gov).



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Jorgensen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Doug Jorgensen  
State Fire Marshal

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# HOT SPOTS @ OSEFM

## OSFM Welcomes Dirk Christian, Tom Sparling



**Dirk Christian**, OSFM Emergency Response Division Chief

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is pleased to welcome Dirk Christian, Emergency Response Division Chief, and Tom Sparling, Information Technology Manager, to our team.

Dirk comes to OSFM from the University of Kansas, where he was the Fire Officer Program Manager for the Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute. He has worked in the public safety and emergency services, with a 30-year military service career.

He lives in Topeka with his wife, Amy, and has three children, Kylie, Alyssa and Jake. He also has a dog, Marley and a cat, Luna. He enjoys woodworking, camping, fishing and hunting in his spare time.

"I truly enjoy working with emergency services special operations," Dirk said. "I have developed a unique set of experiences over the years through my involvement with the Kansas fire service and all of my experiences with the US Army and Army National Guard. As I retired from the military last year, I have pursued the ability to continue to work in the area of public safety. As the Emergency Response Division Chief for OSFM, it will allow me to continue to pursue my passion for service to the state and to the nation."

Tom comes to OSFM from Topeka USD 501, where he worked in Information Technology for the past six years. He brings over 16 years of Information Technology experience to our office.

He lives in Topeka with his wife, Mary. They have three sons, Brandon, Dalton and Bryson, as well as two cats. He enjoys camping, fishing, shooting and laser engraving.

"I was a volunteer firefighter in the past," Tom said. "I wanted to get back in touch with the fire service, and this job was the perfect way to do it."



**Tom Sparling**, OSFM Information Technology Manager



### OUR MISSION

The agency's mission is to reduce the deaths, injuries, and property losses of Kansans through inspection, enforcement, regulation, investigation, education, hazardous material and search & rescue incident responses.

### OUR PURPOSE

To reduce the deaths, injuries, and property losses of Kansans through:

- Inspection
- Enforcement
- Plans Review
- Fireworks and Explosives Regulation
- Investigation
- Hazardous Material Incident Mitigation
- Public Education
- Coordination of Search and Rescue Efforts

### The TRUMPET

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### STAY CONNECTED



**Kindergarten Fire Safety Poster Contest winner, Brydan Long**, enjoyed showing Governor Kelly and Fire Marshal Jorgensen his winning artwork as his parents looked on. More details about all of our winners and their visit to the Capitol can be found on pages 8-9.

# Kansas Task Force Teams Deployed for Extreme Weather Across State

On Monday, May 27, the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) received a request for deployable resources from the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM) for two Flood/Swiftwater Rescue teams and two Hazardous Materials Response Teams (HMRT) to deploy to Montgomery County / Coffeyville in anticipation of a possible levee overtopping or breaching along the Verdigris River.



Kansas Task Forces 4 and 5 Coffeyville Water Rescue Deployment

Our Emergency Response Division deployed one Type 2 Flood/Swiftwater Rescue team and one Type 3 Flood/Swiftwater Rescue team from Kansas Task Force 4 (KS-TF4) and Kansas Task Force 5 (KS-TF5). Both teams, along with incident support personnel, deployed to Coffeyville and conducted stand-by operations for 24 hours. At the same time, concerns about hazardous materials in the water due to potential flooding brought the activation of the Coffeyville Fire Department HMRT



Wakarusa Township Fire Department/Kansas Task Force 2

and the deployment of a second Type 1 HMRT from the Overland Park Fire Department. As the water receded on May 28, each of our response teams were either canceled before they arrived in Coffeyville or safely demobilized from the incident.

Tornado destruction on the day after in Wakarusa.

Search operations focused on the affected areas south of Lawrence, ensuring that no one was seriously injured and that all persons were accounted for.



On Tuesday night, May 28, an EF3/EF4 tornado tracked for over 30 miles across southern Douglas County and into Leavenworth County causing widespread damage, especially in Wakarusa Township, south of Lawrence, and to the community of Linwood.

We received an immediate request for deployable resources, even as the tornado continued to track on the ground. KS-TF2 from the northeast region was activated for immediate deployment of a Type 4 Urban Search & Rescue task force, as were KS-TF4 and KS-TF5. KS-TF2 deployed regional search and rescue assets to Wakarusa Township and assisted with primary and secondary search operations.

KS-TF4/KS-TF5 were canceled en route and were not needed in the affected areas. At the same time, mutual aid assets from the Kansas City Metro region assisted local authorities with the tornado that struck Linwood.

KS-TF K9's and Canine Search Specialists were deployed to Linwood to assist with search and rescue operations. With simultaneous task force deployments, we deployed two staff members to serve in incident support roles to assist with task force and incident management.

Firefighters from six participating agencies, as well as two of our K9 teams, deployed with KS-TF2. The task force assisted local firefighters and first responders with searching over 200 homes and ensuring that no one required rescue. After approximately 15 hours on scene, KS-TF2 was released by the Incident Commander and safely demobilized from the incident.

We would like to offer our sincere appreciation for all of the hard work our task force members, staff and other agencies provided during this period of severe weather.

# Kansas Drops Total Number of Required Safety Drills for K-12



Governor Laura Kelly signed Senate Bill 128 into law on April 10, changing the number of safety drills K-12 schools in Kansas have to perform each year from 16 to nine.



As schools across the state of Kansas know, Senate Bill 109 changed the landscape of how K-12 schools conducted school drills. When Senate Bill 109 passed, schools were required to change the number and type of drills conducted during the school year.

## Required Drills Previous Law

- 9 Crisis Drills
- 4 Fire Drills
- 3 Tornado Drill
- Total Drills: 16**

## Required Drills Under SB 128

- 3 Crisis Drills
- 4 Fire Drills
- 2 Tornado Drills
- Total Drills: 9**

## Examples of Types of Crisis Drills

- Water Main Break
- Earthquake
- Missing Student
- Hazardous Spills
- Intruders
- Active Shooters
- Medical Emergencies

\*\*This is just a list of some examples. If you have questions about acceptable types of crisis drills, please contact our office.

The change required schools to conduct nine crisis drills, four fire drills and three tornado drills during the school year, for a total of 16 drills per school year. The change was positive in bringing about crisis drills to schools. However, the total number of drills proved to be overwhelming for many school districts.

With that in mind, Senate Bill 128 was introduced to change the number of drills required for schools. The bill changes the total number of drills from 16 to nine (four fire drills, three crisis drills and two tornado drills) per school year.

There are several types of drills that meet the law's new requirements. Here are just a few examples that would suffice for the crisis drills: water main break, earthquake, missing student, hazardous spills, intruders, active shooters or medical emergencies.

The new law goes into effect on July 1. Watch our website for updates to forms and information on the change in drill requirements. If you have any questions about this topic, please contact Joel Beckner, OSFM Prevention Education Consultant, at [joel.c.beckner@ks.gov](mailto:joel.c.beckner@ks.gov) or 785-296-0659.

# Fireworks Safety

The Office of the State Fire Marshal, Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Safe Kids Kansas would like to remind Kansans of the importance of fireworks safety this Independence Day. Fireworks are dangerous to both adults and children if not handled properly.

Out of 207 reported fireworks-related injuries in Kansas in 2018, males between the ages of 9 and 34 were the most commonly injured, according to the 2018 Kansas Fireworks Injury Survey. Males represented 64 percent of the total number of injuries. Nearly half of the injuries involved children under the age of 18. Hands, eyes, face and head injuries were among those reported.

“Hand injuries are the most common injury seen in Kansas, at 34 percent,” Cherie Sage, Director of Safe Kids Kansas, said. “It’s really important for little hands to not light fireworks. This includes sparklers, which burn at a temperature hot enough to melt glass. We encourage parents to let their little ones use glow sticks instead of sparklers.”

The data was collected through voluntary reporting from Kansas hospitals and administered by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

“We want all Kansans to have a fun, safe Fourth of July,” Doug Jorgensen, Fire Marshal for the State of Kansas, said. “We know the safest way to enjoy fireworks is to visit public fireworks displays conducted by trained professionals who know how to properly handle fireworks. If you are going to purchase and partake in consumer fireworks, a few simple precautions can prevent you or your loved ones from becoming one of these statistics.”

Jorgensen added that always using a long-handled lighter to ignite fireworks, lighting from a solid, flat and stable platform and making sure fireworks debris has cooled off completely before disposing, are tips that can significantly lower the risk of injuries and fires.

“It’s everyone’s responsibility to ensure a safe and healthy holiday,” Lee Norman, Secretary of KDHE, said. “Having a water supply handy, being prepared with first aid kits and following the laws and safety protocols are just a few ways Kansans of every age can come together for a great, safe Fourth of July.”

Bottle rockets and M80s are illegal in Kansas and extremely dangerous. The use or sale of these banned fireworks is considered a crime under Kansas law.

Last year, there were seven injuries from “Homemade” fireworks. Homemade or manipulated fireworks are illegal and no longer considered safe.

It is also illegal in Kansas to shoot fireworks on or under any vehicle, on any public roadway, within 50 feet of a fireworks stand or where fireworks are stored,

and at gas stations or any place liquid gas – including propane – is stored.

Always refer to the local ordinances as to whether fireworks are allowed in your area as well as what types. Some cities or counties have restricted dates/times or types of fireworks that may be sold or discharged.

**For more information on fireworks safety, visit [FireMarshal.ks.gov/fireworkssafety](http://FireMarshal.ks.gov/fireworkssafety) or [SafeKidsKansas.org](http://SafeKidsKansas.org).**

## Fireworks Safety Tips

- **Use a long-handled lighter**
- **Light from a solid, flat and stable platform**
- **Have an adult supervise all fireworks activities**
- **Always ignite outdoors**
- **Light only one firework at a time**
- **Never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks**
- **Make sure fireworks debris is cooled off completely before disposing**
- **Store fireworks in a cool, dry place**



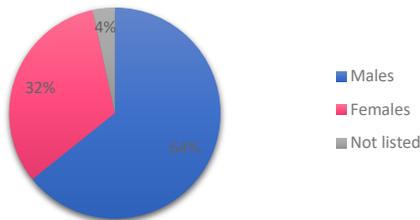
# In Kansas...

BY THE NUMBERS

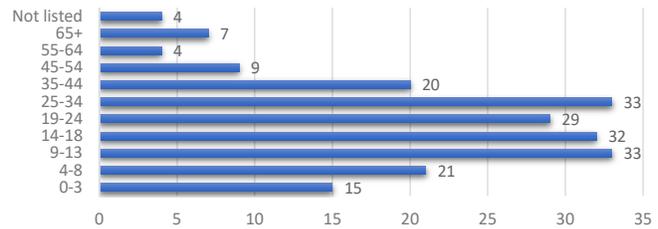
# 2017

## Reported fireworks injuries in 2018

Sex of Injured Party



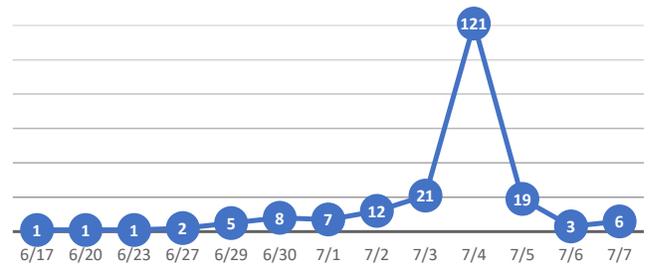
Age of Injured Party



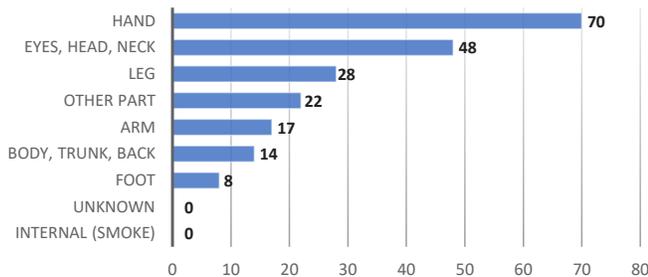
Activity of Injured Party



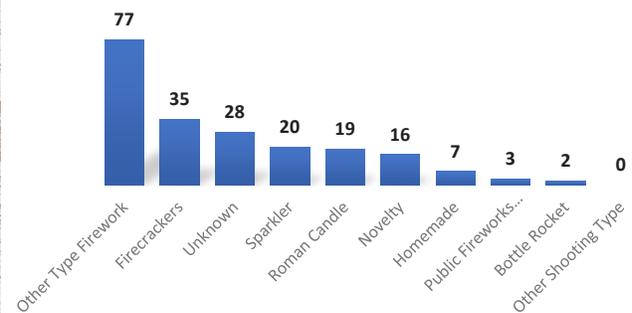
Date of Injury



Part of Body Injured



Type of Fireworks



2018 Kansas Fireworks Injury Survey -Data collected through voluntary reporting from Kansas hospitals and administered by the OSFM.

# Governor Recognizes Fire Safety Poster Contest Winners at Capitol

*Kansas students, kindergarten through fifth grades, creatively display importance of fire safety through OSFM annual fire safety poster contest.*

Students from across the state recently put their creative talents to work to help spread the message about fire safety by participating in the Fire Safety Poster Contest conducted annually by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The agency is pleased to announce the winners of this contest, who were honored by Governor Kelly and State Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen at a ceremony in the Governor's office on March 1, 2019.

The winning posters, along with those earning honorable mention recognition, are currently being featured on a display in the State Capitol Building and are highlighted in the 2019 Fire Safety Calendar.

The competition kicked off in October in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week. The poster contest is designed to support the fire safety education efforts of local fire departments. Participants were asked to use this year's theme, Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere, in their entries.

"Fire safety education is one of our most important tools when it comes to fire prevention," State Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen said. "It is wonderful to see the participation and teamwork between the schools and local fire departments during Fire Prevention Week and our poster contest when it comes to teaching students about the importance of fire safety."

Schools across Kansas encouraged participation from their students, who demonstrated their knowledge of fire safety that they learned in school or at home. The poster contest was divided into grade categories: kindergarten through fifth grade.

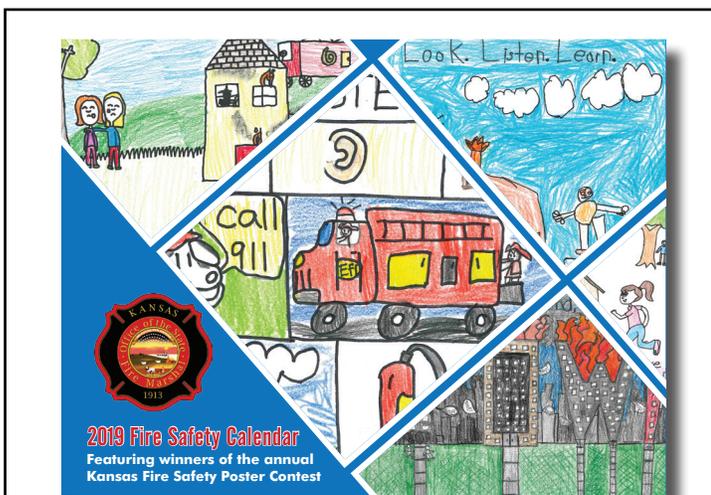
## Winners:

**Brydan Long**, Kindergarten, Troy Grade School, Troy, Kansas, Doniphan County Fire District #5.  
**Kinzlie Ferris**, 1st Grade, Troy Grade School, Troy, Kansas, Doniphan County Fire District #5.  
**Teagan Cooley**, 2nd Grade, Randolph Elementary School, Topeka, Kansas, Topeka Fire Department.  
**Brynn Widener**, 3rd Grade, Ellinwood Grade School, Ellinwood, Kansas, Ellinwood Fire Department.  
**Bennett Jacobs**, 4th Grade, Ellinwood Grade School, Ellinwood, Kansas, Ellinwood Fire Department.  
**Hailey Nolan**, 5th Grade, Greeley County Elementary School, Tribune, Kansas, Unified Greeley County Fire District 1.

## Honorable Mentions:

**Benjamin Blakley**, Kindergarten, Yoder Charter School, Yoder, Kansas, Reno County Fire District #8.  
**Jaxten Schossow**, 1st Grade, RV Haderlein Elementary School, Girard, Kansas, Girard Fire & Rescue Department.  
**Faith Rose**, 2nd Grade, RV Haderlein Elementary School, Girard, Kansas, Girard Fire & Rescue Department.  
**Rylee Smith**, 3rd Grade, RV Haderlein Elementary School, Girard, Kansas, Girard Fire & Rescue Department.  
**Shari Miller**, 4th Grade, Yoder Charter School, Yoder, Kansas, Reno County Fire District #8.  
**Lydia Porter**, 5th Grade, Ellinwood Elementary School, Ellinwood, Kansas, Ellinwood Fire Department.

**Visit [www.firemarshal.ks.gov](http://www.firemarshal.ks.gov) to see all of the winners' artwork and information on participating.**



**“** Thank you! My little girl, Faith is thrilled to be recognized for her fire safety poster. I showed her a picture of the Rotunda and also an exterior picture of our State Capitol building. She was astounded by the beauty of the building, and thrilled the calendar with her art would be shown there. She commented, 'I'm famous!' You made her day, thank you! **”**

— Joanna Rose, Faith Rose's mom, honorable mention, second grade, RV Haderlein Elementary School, Girard, Kansas



**Kindergarten winner Brydan Long**, with (from left,) Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen, Governor Laura Kelly, and Brydan's parents.



**First grade winner, Kinzlie Ferris**, with (from left,) Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen, Governor Laura Kelly, and Kinzlie's parents.

# Fire Safety Poster Contest Winners



**Second grade winner, Teagan Cooley**, with (from left,) Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen, Governor Laura Kelly, and Teagan's parents.



**Third grade winner, Brynn Widener**, with (from left,) Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen, Governor Laura Kelly, and Brynn's family.



**Fourth grade winner, Bennett Jacobs**, with (from left,) Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen, Governor Laura Kelly, and Bennett's parents.



**Fifth grade winner Hailey Nolan**, with (from left,) Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen, Governor Laura Kelly, and Hailey's parents.

# Smoke Alarm Donation Assists Sound the Alarm Campaign

***Hundreds of smoke alarms were installed in Topeka community and across the nation through American Red Cross' Sound the Alarm program in April. OSFM Donated 100 smoke alarms for Topeka event.***

On Saturday, April 27th, American Red Cross volunteers and partners visited local homes to install free smoke alarms during a national effort to Sound the Alarm against home fires. The home fire safety and smoke alarm installation event was part of a two-week push of Sound the Alarm events in 100 cities with a high risk of home fires—which kill more people in a typical year in the U.S. than all other natural disasters combined. Most deaths occur in homes without working smoke alarms.

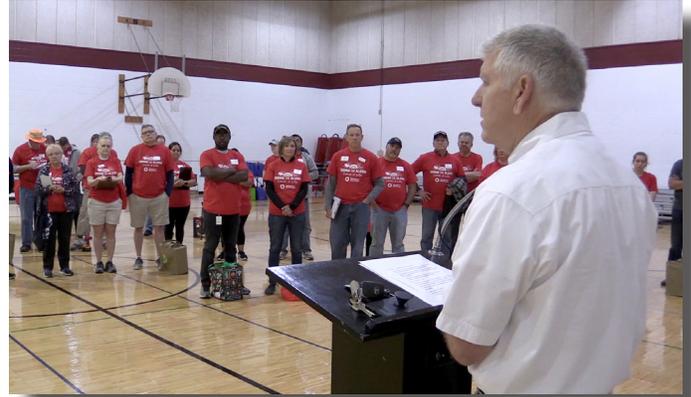
The Office of the State Fire Marshal donated 100 smoke alarms to assist in the local effort. Volunteers canvassed high-risk neighborhoods in Topeka, which included Oakland and North Topeka, to install free smoke alarms, replace batteries in existing alarms and help families create escape plans. A total of 398 alarms were installed in 203 homes in Topeka.

“We were happy to be a part of this important event,” Doug Jorgensen, State Fire Marshal, said. “Any time we can contribute to making Kansans safer in their homes and get the word out about the importance of smoke alarms, we want to be a part of it. This is a perfect fit with our Get Alarmed, Kansas program.”

Sound the Alarm events are part of the Home Fire Campaign, which the Red Cross launched in 2014 to reduce fire deaths and injuries. So far, it has reached more than 1.7 million people and saved more than 500 lives nationwide.



**Local volunteers** install smoke alarm in residence of North Topeka homeowner.



**State Fire Marshal Jorgensen** helps kick off Topeka Sound the Alarm event, addressing volunteers.

“Each day, Red Cross volunteers care for neighbors devastated by home fires, and we want to prevent needless tragedies from these disasters,” said Jane Blocher, Executive Director of the American Red Cross of Capital Area Kansas. “You can help save lives by volunteering and raising donations for lifesaving services. We are also grateful to the Kansas State Fire Marshal’s office for donating 100 alarms to supplement our event.”

This work was also made possible thanks in part to generous financial donations from area partners Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas and Capitol Federal.

For more information on the OSFM Get Alarmed Kansas program, visit: [GetAlarmedKS.org](http://GetAlarmedKS.org).

## ***About the American Red Cross:***

***The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation’s blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org/kansas](http://redcross.org/kansas) or [cruzrojaamericana.org](http://cruzrojaamericana.org), or visit us on Twitter at @KSRedCross.***

# Grilling Safety

There's nothing like outdoor grilling. It's one of the most popular ways to cook food. But, a grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. They can be very hot, causing burn injuries. Follow these simple tips and you will be on the way to safe grilling.

## SAFETY TIPS

- » Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- » The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- » Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- » Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- » Never leave your grill unattended.
- » Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

## CHARCOAL GRILLS

- » There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- » If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- » Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- » There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- » When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

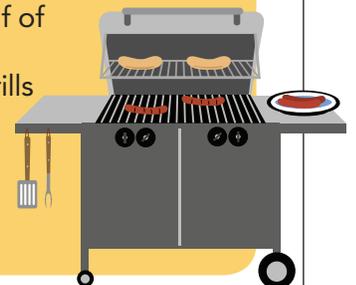
## PROPANE Grills

Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. **If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department.** Do not move the grill.

If the flame **goes out**, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least **5 minutes** before re-lighting it.

## FACTS

- ! July is the peak month for grill fires.
- ! Roughly half of the injuries involving grills are thermal burns.



**NATIONAL FIRE  
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**

The leading information and knowledge resource  
on fire, electrical and related hazards



# Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!

This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign provides an ideal opportunity to educate the public about the importance of fire safety. "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!" works to educate everyone about the small but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

Did you know?

In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Escape planning and practice can help you make the most of the time you have, giving everyone enough time to get out.

Plan ahead for your escape. Make your home escape plan and practice today.

For more information visit [FirePreventionWeek.org](http://FirePreventionWeek.org).



# Latest Fire Hazard Recalls from CPSC

**Name of product:**

Heyday 3-Foot Lightning USB charging cables

**Hazard:**

The metal around the cord can become electrically charged if it contacts the USB wall charger plug prongs while charging, posing shock and fire hazards.

**Remedy:**

Refund

**Recall date:**

May 29, 2019

**Units:**

About 90,000



**Name of product:**

ION Portable speakers

**Hazard:**

Hydrogen gas can leak from the portable speaker battery when charging and the speaker can burst, posing an explosion hazard.

**Remedy:**

Refund

**Recall date:**

May 21, 2019

**Units:**

About 41,000



**Name of product:**

Children's sleep sacks

**Hazard:**

The children's sleep sacks fail to meet the flammability standard for children's sleepwear, posing a risk of burn injuries to children.

**Remedy:**

Refund, Replace

**Recall date:**

May 28, 2019

**Units:**

About 10,600



**Name of product:**

FIRMAN P03615 generators

**Hazard:**

The generator's carbon canister can leak gas, posing a fire hazard.

**Remedy:**

Refund, Repair

**Recall date:**

May 2, 2019

**Units:**

About 19,000



For more information on these recalls and others and to sign up for direct recall notifications, please visit [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).

**Working smoke alarms save lives!**

**Free Smoke Alarm Program**

**GetAlarmedKS.org**

# Lightning Safety

Thunder and lightning storms happen all the time. Know what to do to keep you and your family safe when storms strike!

## Safety Tips

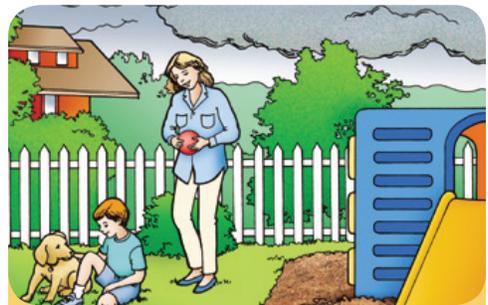
### Outdoor Safety

- **If you can hear** thunder, you are within striking distance of lightning. Look for shelter inside a home, large building, or a hard-topped vehicle right away.
- **Do not go under** trees for shelter. There is no place outside that is safe during a thunderstorm.
- **Wait at least 30 minutes** after hearing the last clap of thunder before leaving your shelter.
- **Stay away** from windows and doors. Stay off porches.
- **There is no safe place outside.** Places with only a roof on sports fields, golf courses, and picnic areas are not safe during a lightning storm. Small sheds should not be used.
- **If a person is struck** by lightning, call **9-1-1**. Get medical help right away.

### Indoor Safety

Turn off computers. Stay off corded phones, computers, and other things that put you in direct contact with electricity or plumbing. You **can use** a cell or cordless phone.

**Do not** wash your hands, bathe, shower, do laundry, or wash dishes.



### FAST FACTS

Lightning may strike as far as **10 miles** from any rain.



**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**

The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

