



# PREVENTION

## Highlights



### In This Issue...

**Emergency Preparedness Requirements**  
**Remember P.A.S.S.**  
**Health Care & Power Strips**  
**Current Day Fire: Tragedy in Today's Age**

# PREVENTION Highlights

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 3
Edu-Note by Ashley
Page 4
New Prevention Team Members
Page 5
Emergency Preparedness Requirements
Page 6
Remember P.A.S.S.
Page 7
Heating Safety
Page 8
Health Care & Power Strips
Page 9
Code Consultation Forms
Page 10
Spot the Violation
Page 11
Current Day Fire: Tragedy in Today's Age
Page 12
Frostbite & Hypothermia



## Our Mission

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is dedicated to protecting lives and property from the hazards of fire or explosion and will promote prevention, educational and investigative activities to mitigate incidents, promote life safety and deter crimes.

## The Fire Prevention Division

The goal of the Fire Prevention Division is to reduce the potential impact of fire and explosion hazards where people live, work and congregate (other than one- or two-family dwellings) through code enforcement, inspections, plans review, licensing, and public education.

## Prevention Highlights

Prevention Highlights is published quarterly to provide facility managers and others with information necessary to operate fire-safe facilities.

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Connect with us!



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# Edu-Note

by Ashley



## CONTACT ASHLEY

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The Office of the State Fire Marshal has brought in 2020 with a bang! As we grow, we have added new team members, including myself, the new Fire Prevention Education Consultant.

When I first arrived at the OSFM, I began to realize the importance of fire safety, regulations and inspections. When you don't live in that world every day, it is hard to see why these things can be so vital. I have learned so much in such a short time. I am so excited to continue my education journey.

I place high importance in educating facilities before something goes wrong. Traveling across Kansas to give presentations to different types of facilities, including assisted livings, nursing homes, hospitals, colleges and K-12 schools is something that I am very excited about doing.

Meeting new people and giving presentations that can help save lives is a very rewarding job. If you are interested in scheduling a presentation by our office, or simply want to inform us of items you are seeing come up in your world, please don't hesitate to call or send me an email, I will be ecstatic to hear from you.

My direct line is 785-296-0659 and my email is [ashley.rogers@ks.gov](mailto:ashley.rogers@ks.gov).

*-Ashley Rogers, Education Consultant*

## New Prevention Team Members...



Travis Lloyd, Deputy Boiler Inspector

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is pleased to welcome Travis Lloyd and Aaron Anzicek to our Prevention Division.

Travis joined our Prevention Division as a deputy boiler inspector for the Southeast Kansas Region. He comes to OSFM from the Coffeyville Regional Medical Center, where he worked with boilers and maintenance for the past 16 years.

He lives in Caney with his wife, Starla, and son, Samuel, who is 10 years old. They have a chocolate lab named Bella. He enjoys fishing and spending time with his family.

"I am happy to have this opportunity," Travis said. "I knew this would be a good job for me, and I am looking forward to showing my family that hard work pays off."

Aaron is a new fire prevention inspector for Wyandotte, Leavenworth, Atchison, Brown and Doniphan counties. Aaron comes to OSFM from the City of Overland Park, where he worked for five years.

Aaron lives in Kansas City, has two children and one dog, a Labrador. He enjoys anything outdoors in his spare time.

"I saw this as a great, new opportunity," Aaron said. "I am excited to start this new chapter in my career at OSFM."



Aaron, Anzicek, Fire Prevention Inspector



# More New Prevention Team Members...

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is also pleased to welcome Dominic Buterakos and Ashley Rogers to its Prevention Division.

Dominic will serve as a Fire Prevention Inspector for Douglas, Franklin and Miami counties. He comes to the OSFM from the City of Ottawa where he was a water maintenance worker.

Dominic lives in Lawrence with his fiancé, 18-month-old son, Golden Retriever and Labrador Retriever. He likes to be active and can be found running, training in Jiu Jitsu or spending time with his family in his spare time.



Dominic Buterakos, Fire Prevention Inspector



Ashley Rogers, Fire Prevention Education Consultant

"I am thankful for this opportunity," Dominic said. "The fire side of things is where I have always wanted to work."

Ashley is our new fire prevention education consultant. She comes to the OSFM after spending the last three years in accounting.

Ashley lives in Topeka with her six-year-old son, two dogs, two cats and one hamster. She likes to read, shop and play board games in her spare time.

"I love to work with public," Ashley said. "Working with the fire marshal's office was a very exciting offer. It was one that I couldn't turn down."

**Welcome, Dominic and Ashley!**

# Prevention Happenings...



Brian Love, Prevention Field Supervisor, gives a presentation at the KanStruct Conference in Wichita this month.



**Congratulations, Trevor Hallagin,** Deputy Boiler Inspector, for earning his Boiler & Pressure Vessel In-service Inspector certificate.



Leading Age training on regulations for board and care.



# Emergency Preparedness Requirements

Emergencies can and will happen, anywhere at any time. Being prepared for different types of disasters will help save many lives.

Facilities are required to develop an emergency preparedness program that meets all of the requirements of the NFPA. This program must describe the facility's comprehensive approach to meeting all the health, safety and security needs of their staff, students, patients and / or residents during an emergency. They are also required to address how the facility would coordinate with other healthcare facilities, schools, and community during an emergency or disaster. This program must be reviewed on an annual basis.

When planning the drills, it is important to remember that all exits are to be unlocked and unobstructed. Designate specific staff members to be responsible for the planning and scheduling of fire drills. Designate a safe area at least 50 feet from the building. This area needs to be safe from dangers of fire, fire department operations, and public vehicles.

drills are divided up as the following: 4 Fire Drills, 2 Tornado Drills and 3 Crisis Drills. Crisis drills shall include, but not limited to, intruder response drills and lock-down drills.

In healthcare facilities, a fire drill must be held once per shift per quarter. A silent drill may be conducted between the hours of 9:00 PM and 6:00 AM, a coded announcement may be used instead of the audible alarm, but the alarm must be sounded before noon the next morning.



A Topeka police officer stands guard while Fire and EMT tend to an "injured," student.

## School Drills

### 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.

When conducting the drills, you want to make sure you keep the drills as real as possible. Do drills at different times of the day, different shifts, and different weeks.

In schools, an emergency preparedness drill must be held 9 times throughout the whole school year. The

Make sure to document each drill and keep completed yearly records on file for at least 3 years. You can find forms for the drills on the Office of the State Fire Marshal's website.

At the end of the day, we all have the same goal, to keep the public safe.





# Remember P.A.S.S.



- **P**ull the pin. Hold the extinguisher with the nozzle pointing away from you and release the locking mechanism.
- **A**im low. Point the extinguisher at the base of the fire.
- **S**queeze the lever slowly and evenly.
- **S**weep the nozzle from side-to-side.

## Occupancy Requirements

Fire extinguishers **are required** in the following occupancy types:

- Ambulatory health care
- Apartments
- Assemblies
- Businesses
- Day care
- Hotel and dormitory
- Industrial
- Lodging and rooming
- Mercantile
- Occupancies in special structures
- Health care
- Educational
- Storage
- Detention and correctional
- Residential board and care

Fire extinguishers **are not required** in one- and two-family dwellings. For more information on occupancy requirements, see Table 13.6.1.2 of NFPA 1, *Fire Code (2018)*.

*There are 5 types of fire extinguishers; Class A, Class B, Class C, Class D and Class K.*

**Class A:** Required anywhere ordinary combustibles are present. Fires involve materials such as wood, cloth, and paper

**Class B:** Required for locations where there is the potential for flammable liquid fires. Fires involve flammable liquids such as gasoline, oil, and some paints and solvents.

**Class C:** Required in areas where energized electrical equipment may be encountered. Fires involve energized electrical equipment.

**Class D:** Required in areas where there is a potential for fires involving combustible metals. Fires involve combustible metals, such as magnesium and sodium.

**Class K:** Used where there is a potential for fires involving combustible cooking components. Fires involve cooking oils used in commercial cooking equipment.

Remember that children should never operate a fire extinguisher, their job is to “get out and stay out”.

You should use a portable fire extinguisher when the fire is confined to a small area, such as a wastebasket, and is not growing; everyone has exited the building; the fire department has been called or is being called; and the room is not filled with smoke.

NFPA requires that the extinguisher shall be in a visible area, where it is readily accessible in case of a fire. It shall be labeled with no visual obstructions.

# Safety First!



# Heating Safety

There is something about the winter months and curling up with a good book by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths? With a few simple safety tips and precautions you can prevent most heating fires from happening.

## BE WARM AND SAFE THIS WINTER!

- Keep anything that can burn at least three-foot (one metre) away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot (one metre) “kid-free zone” around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer’s instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.



## Heating Equipment Smarts

**Install** wood burning stoves following manufacturer’s instructions or have a professional do the installation. All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

**Install** and maintain CO alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning. If you **smell** gas in your gas heater, do not light the appliance. Leave the home immediately and call your local fire department or gas company.



## FACT

Half of home heating fires are reported during the months of **December, January, and February.**



**NATIONAL FIRE  
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource  
on fire, electrical and related hazards



# Health Care & Power Strips

Our office gets questions on a regular basis asking what the codes are for use of power strips in healthcare facilities. Usually we get these after a facility has been issued a violation notice for the improper use of power strips. It is important to understand that there is not a single type of power strip that is suitable for every application in your facility. Each type of power strip has a specific purpose and should not be used for a different purpose than what it is designed and approved for.

**Here is the list of the current power strips you can use with how you can use them:**

- **Medical-Grade Power Strips (Approved for use in the Patient Care Vicinity):** Tested to comply with UL 60601-1. These can be used inside or outside the Patient Care Vicinity. They protect patients and staff in the event of a single fault. They typically power medical or computer equipment. These power strips cannot be used for non-medical equipment. The sum of the ampacity of all appliances connected to the receptacles shall not exceed 75% of the ampacity of the flexible cord supplying the receptacles.



- **Power Strips for Administrative Areas and Operating Rooms with Isolation (NOT Approved for use in the Patient Care Vicinity):** Tested to comply with UL 1363. They cannot be used in the Patient Care Vicinity. The sum of the ampacity of all appliances connected to the receptacles shall not exceed 75% of the ampacity of the flexible cord supplying the receptacles



- **Medical-Grade Power Strips for Mobile Applications (Approved for use in the Patient Care Vicinity):** Tested to comply with UL 1363A. They can be used inside or outside the Patient Care Vicinity. They require permanent mounting (not removable without a tool) to mobile medical equipment platforms such as IV poles or crash carts. These power strips cannot be used for non-medical equipment. The sum of the ampacity of all appliances connected to the receptacles shall not exceed 75% of the ampacity of the flexible cord supplying the receptacles.

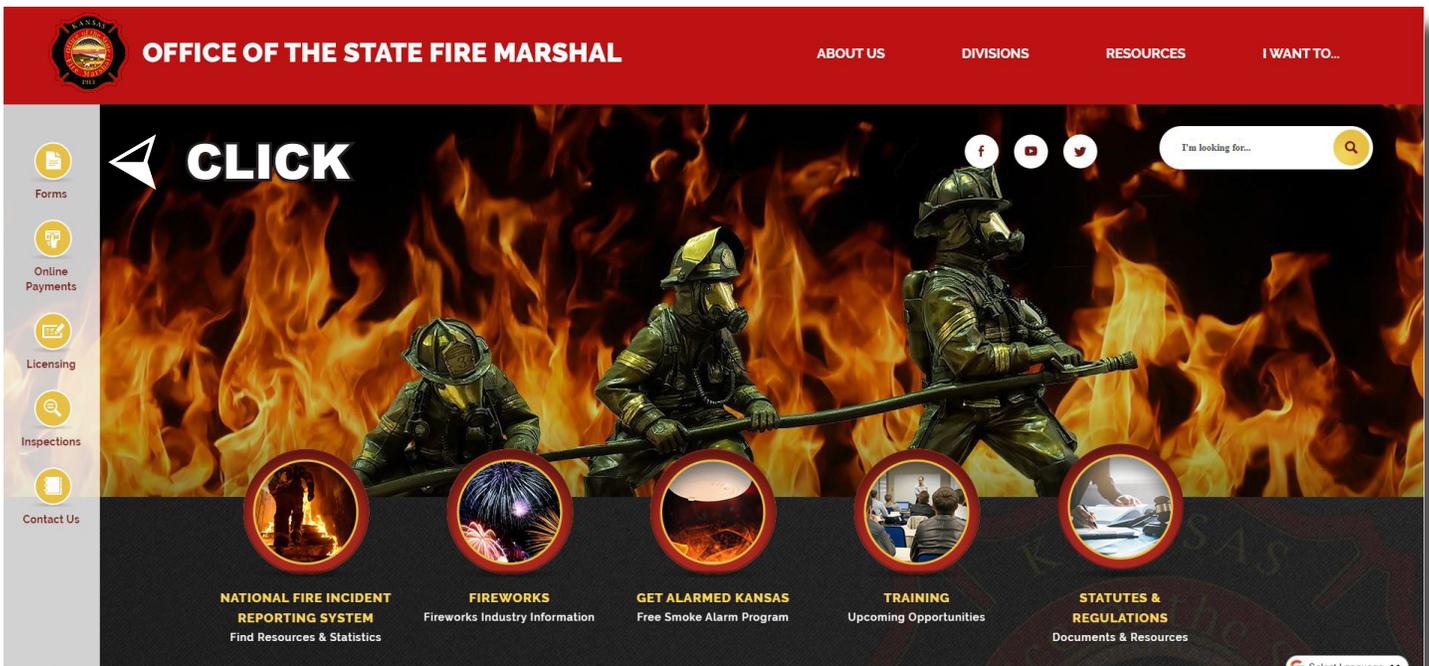
Now, let's cover the definition of "**Patient Care Vicinity**". The patient care vicinity is defined as the Space within a location intended for the examination and treatment of patients, extending 1.8 m (6 ft.) beyond the normal location of the bed, chair, table, treadmill or other device that supports the patient during examination and treatment and extending vertically to 2.3 m (7 ft. 6 in.) above the floor".

We understand that most residents want that "at home" feeling while in a long-term care facility, but we also want to make sure that they are safe. Personal items within the patient care vicinity such as alarm clocks, TVs, mini-fridges, cell phone chargers, etc. are not to be plugged into a power strip. These items must be plugged in directly to the outlet.

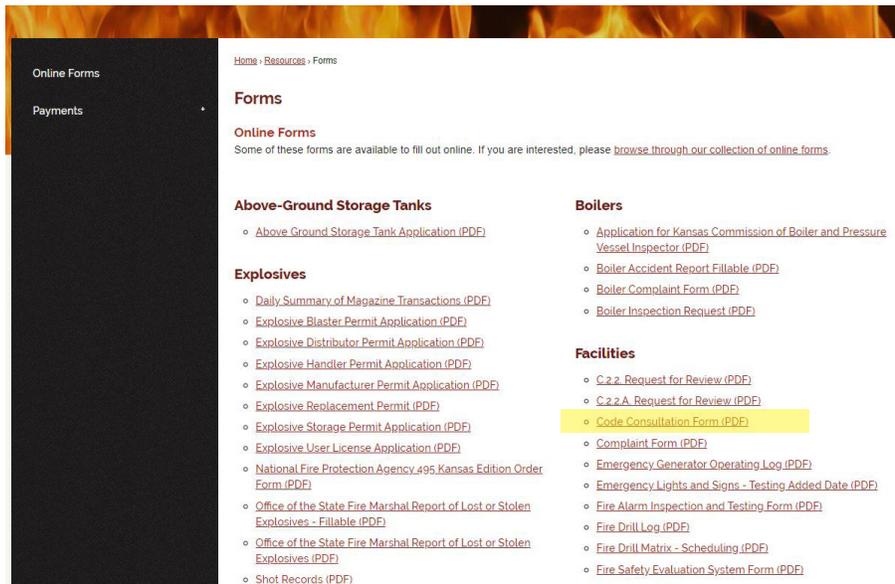
It is very important to understand the regulations in place for power strips in order to keep residents and patients safe from harm. If you have any questions, please reach out to our office at [prevention@ks.gov](mailto:prevention@ks.gov).



# Code Consultation Form



[www.firemarshal.ks.gov](http://www.firemarshal.ks.gov)



If you have questions on a project, a citation, or codes, don't worry, we have your back! A code consultation form is used when you or your facility have questions about codes and regulations. This form is sent to our knowledgeable prevention department. Please make sure to have all the necessary information we will need to provide you with an answer.

**\*OSFM Code Consultation Policy:** We will respond to consultation requests in the order received. Please provide code footprint, plans, photos or any other documentation required for us to provide accurate answers to your question(s). All questions on status of plan reviews should be emailed to [prevention@ks.gov](mailto:prevention@ks.gov).



# SPOT the violations

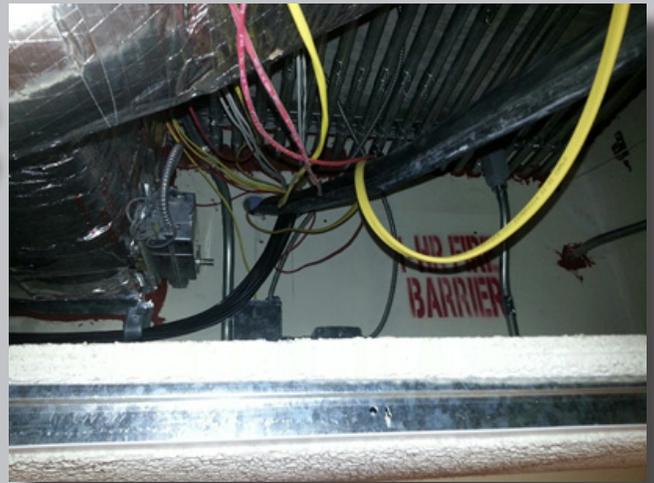
**A**



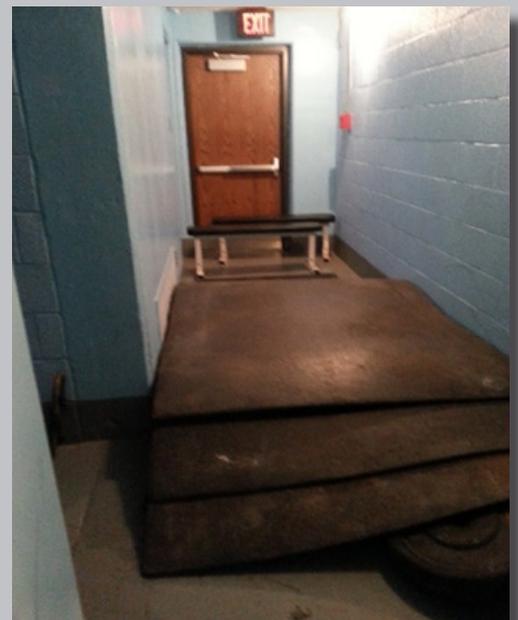
**B**



**C**



**D**



**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

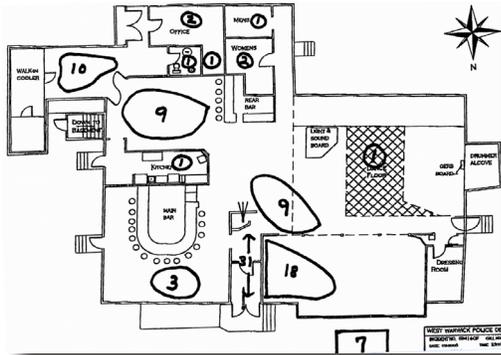
Answers on Page 11



# Current Day Fire: Tragedy in Today's Age

## The Station Nightclub Fire 2003

On the night of February 20, 2003, a pyrotechnic display during a concert at The Station in West Warwick, Rhode Island, killed 100 people and also injured more than 187. The fire ranks as one of the deadliest assembly-occupancy fires in U.S. history.



*Pictured above:* The floor plan showing where bodies were found. Note, 31 were found at the front exit door.



*Pictured above:* The aftermath of the tragedy.

### HISTORIC FIRES THAT SHAPED OUR CODES

One of the main goals of our fire codes is to not let history repeat itself. These 5 tragic historic fires have helped shape our codes today, so we can keep the public safe from fires.

#### The Great Chicago Fire 1871

Claiming up to 300 lives in 1871, The Great Chicago Fire happened after starting in a barn on a dry October night creating havoc throughout miles of Chicago. After the devastation of this historic event, City Council stepped up within a year to ban wooden building materials and require flame-resistant materials instead.

#### Iroquois Theater Fire 1903

Another tragic Chicago fire, Iroquois Theater in 1903. This theater caught fire with 602 people trapped inside. A stage light had sparked and ignited a curtain during a performance, trapping everyone inside due to the exits being blocked and doors opening inward.

#### Triangle Shirtwaist Fire 1911

New York City, Spring 1911, 147 people lost their lives. A factory that had very few escape routes, with narrow aisles had caught fire after a rag bin ignited sending the building up in flames.

#### Ohio State Penitentiary Fire 1930

While under renovation, Ohio State Penitentiary was set fire by a candle in 1930. The blaze happened quickly with a combination of wooden scaffolding and oily rags. Tragedy struck when guards refused to let prisoners out of their cells, killing an estimated 320 prisoners.

#### Cocoanut Grove Nightclub Fire

Ever wonder why you can't get into your favorite club or restaurant? In 1916 Cocoanut Grove in Boston set fire by a lit match igniting a piece of décor. There were obstructed exits, fake walls, lack of accessible doors along with locked doors and an extra 400 people filling the nightclub on this tragic night. The main exit, a revolving door, immediately filled up with people causing the total death toll to hit 492. It's important to know the death toll was 32 more than the allowed capacity, which didn't include those who were able to escape.

Many of the survivors developed PTSD as a result of the trauma watching people try to escape the fire.

During investigation, the local fire inspectors were charged with criminal and gross negligence for not enforcing compliance with known issues within the building.

### How the Fire Started

Between, the combination of sparks of the pyrotechnics and the acoustic foam, the fire ignited. Between dark smoke, deadly carbon monoxide and hydrogen cyanide gas, it made it difficult for anyone to see, let alone breathe. Inhaling this smoke only 2–3 times would cause rapid loss of consciousness and, eventually, death by internal suffocation.

### Casualties

The fire alarm had activated, but with the rush of adrenaline of the people trapped inside, and the most known exit being the front entrance, the stampede of people quickly led to a blocked exit. A total of 462 people were in attendance even though the nightclub's capacity was only 404. Injuries and deaths were caused from burns, smoke inhalation, thermal trauma or trampling.

## Answers to Spot the Violations (page 10)

A. Doors can not be chained B. No impact protection C. Fire wall is penetrated D. Exit obstruction



# Frostbite and Hypothermia



## BE PREPARED FOR COLD WEATHER

### Keep moving to keep warm

#### TIPS FOR PREVENTION

- Pay attention to weather forecasts.
- Dress in several layers of loose warm clothing.
- Wear hats that fully cover the ears, warm boots, & mittens.
- Drink plenty of warm fluids but avoid alcohol & caffeine.
- Avoid or limit outdoor activities when the temperature nears or dips below 5°F (-15°C). (CDC 2013).
- Take frequent breaks indoors from the cold.

#### THE FACTS (CDC 2013)

- Hypothermia is a medical emergency.
- In the U.S., an average of 1,300 deaths per year is associated with cold exposure.
- 67% of hypothermia-related deaths were men.
- Alcohol and drug use increases the chances of suffering a frostbite injury and/or hypothermia.
- Those who suffer from diabetes, heart conditions, as well as infants and the elderly, are at greater risk of sustaining hypothermia in cold weather.
- Signs of hypothermia include slurred speech, shivering, weakness, confusion, drowsiness and/or loss of consciousness.

**Transfer to a verified Burn Center within 12 hours of exposure for a frostbitten limb offers the best chance of preserving fingers and toes.**

#### WHAT IS FROSTBITE/HYPOTHERMIA

- Frostbite is freezing of exposed body parts such as the fingers, toes, nose, or earlobes.
- The affected area is cold to touch, may appear cherry-red, mottled, very pale, or even white.
- The skin may have a feeling of numbness, “pins & needles,” or is very painful especially when re-warming.
- Hypothermia occurs when the body temperature cools to a life-threatening level and sometimes accompanies frostbite injury.

#### THE FIX

- Seek medical attention as soon as possible!
- Don't ignore shivering – it's the first sign that the body is losing heat. Get indoors!
- Remove wet clothing and wrap in warm dry clothing.
- Warm the center of the body first using blankets & warm beverages, if alert.
- If blisters form, leave them intact.

#### CAR SAFETY

Remember to have blankets, water & dried food, shovel, flashlight, mobile phone, & a brightly colored cloth to hang from car window. If you become stranded, remember to stay in your car, stay awake, run the car 10 minutes every hour opening window slightly to let air in and ensure snow is not blocking the exhaust pipe.



**BURN  
PREVENTION**

American Burn Association  
312-642-9260  
[www.ameriburn.org](http://www.ameriburn.org)

Improving the lives of those  
affected by burn injuries

