



# PRESS RELEASE

## Darien-Woodridge Fire District

7550 Lyman Ave  
Darien, IL 60561



### **Contact Information:**

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### ***For Release Anytime***

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## Fire Safety Misconception

A recent survey of more than 1,000 people, conducted by the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, reveals that 79% of the people feel safer in their homes than in a public building when it comes to fires.

Unfortunately, the statistics show that people are more at risk at home than in a public building. Home fires outnumber other building fires by more than three to one. Additionally, far more people die in home fires than in other building fires. One of the main reasons for this is due to the fact that public buildings are subject to fire safety requirements and annual inspections, where homes are not. Many public buildings have fire alarm and sprinkler systems that will automatically alert the fire department of a fire, and contain the fire from spreading.

Home fires account for over 80% of fire deaths, one almost every three hours, and 74% of fire injuries. Cooking remains the number one cause of home fires, and smoking related materials continues to be the leading cause of fire deaths.

What can you do? Install working smoke detectors on each level of your home and test them monthly. Change any batteries twice a year - when you change the time on your clocks. Never leave cooking unattended. If you must leave the room, bring something to remind you that food is cooking. Use deep solid ashtrays. Check sofas and chairs for any lingering cigarette butts before going to bed. Have your furnace and fireplace inspected routinely. Don't use extension cords. If remodeling or building a new home, install a fire sprinkler system. They are a very small percentage of the cost of a home, and only the sprinkler heads at the fire will operate.

If you have any questions, or would like a free no obligation home safety survey, contact your local fire department.

Where are you safest from fire? What will you do to make it better?

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