

As the Fire Chief of the local all-volunteer fire and rescue department that serves you, I solicit your personal donations once per year to enable us to continue to respond to your emergency calls. This year I have included a home fire safety checklist which I encourage you to carefully review with your family and others. Fire safety is extremely important, fire injuries can be very serious, and a little pre-planning can help you avoid a real tragedy.

Many of you or your neighbors have been direct recipients of our aid. Our two emergency transport ambulances respond to some 700 calls per year and our fire engines are dispatched on another 350 plus calls that include fires, motor vehicle collision, gas leaks, carbon monoxide alarms, and various other emergency situations when you dial 911. Through June this year CVFD has responded to over 500 emergency calls. Our response district includes the James River Bridge and many of our calls are also for mutual aid assistance to neighboring districts.

The income for our annual operation budget comes from several sources: the citizens of Carrollton, Isle of Wight County, the Commonwealth of Virginia and federal grants. Of all these sources, you are the most important. Money received from outside of Carrollton provides only about half of the funds we need each year and you, the people we serve, provide the rest.

This is why I contact you by mail each year about this time to ask for your contributions to help us maintain the quality of service you expect. To make your donations go further this year I am sending you only this flyer and not the return envelope.

Thank you for considering this request to you for a donation.

Joel C. Acree
Fire Chief
Carrollton Volunteer Fire Department

To donate please mail to:
Carrollton Volunteer Fire
Department
C/O 2011 Fund Drive
P.O. Box 77
Carrollton, VA. 23314-0077

Or you may make a secure
donation online through
paypal from our home page
www.carrolltonfiredept.org

United Way

#9084



Checklist re-print courtesy of University of
Oklahoma Police Department,
<http://www.ou.edu/oupd>

HOME FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST			
PRE-FIRE PLANNING		YES	NO
Have you planned at least two ways to get out of every room in your home?			
Do you keep exit routes clear in your home?			
Do you know how to notify your fire department quickly and correctly in case of fire?			
ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN		YES	NO
Do you make it a rule never to leave small children alone or unattended?			
Do your baby-sitters (<i>and you</i>) know the first rule of safety in fire emergencies? —Get everybody out fast, and don't go back in.			
Do you show your baby-sitters the escape routes from your home, and give instructions on the correct way to report a fire?			
GOOD SMOKING HABITS		YES	NO
Is smoking in bed strictly against the rule in your home?			
Do you always make sure that cigarette, cigar and pipe ashes are completely extinguished before you dispose of them? Before going to bed, be SURE there are no cigarettes still burning.			
Are matches kept out of the reach of children? Keep matches and lighters above the "strike zone" (<i>too high for children to reach</i>).			
HEATING AND COOKING		YES	NO
Are furnaces, stoves and smokepipes kept in good repair and located far enough away from combustible walls and ceilings so that they do not create a hazard? Use a fireplace screen to prevent sparks from flying.			
If you have portable space heaters in your home do you see that they are properly maintained and located? Keep portable space heaters away from people, curtains, and furniture.			
Do you have an annual inspection of your heating system? Have heating equipment checked and cleaned each year.			
Do your sleeves get into things when you cook? Wear tight-fitting clothing when you cook.			
Can you stop a cooking fire safely? Smother a pan fire with a lid. Never use water. If cooking oil starts to smoke, turn down the heat. Don't throw whatever's handy on the counter, such as dumping flour from the bag, on the fire (<i>explosion!</i>)			
ELECTRICITY		YES	NO
Do you see that extension cords are never run under rugs or hooked over nails? Avoid using extension cords wherever possible (<i>especially small-wired cords use with high-wattage appliances.</i>)			
When the breaker "trips" or a fuse blows, do you investigate WHY it happened? If a fuse blows (<i>or a breaker "trips"</i>), find the cause. Remove excess appliances (<i>lamps, stereo components, space heaters, etc.</i>) from a breaker circuit that frequently "trips".			
Is the right size fuse (<i>20 amps for lighting circuits</i>) in each socket in the fuse box? Replace the fuse with one of the correct size.			
Is your TV well ventilated? Allow air space around the TV to prevent overheating. If it doesn't work right, it can be a fire danger.			
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING		YES	NO
Do you keep rubbish cleaned out of the attic, basement, closets, garage and yard? Sort and remove rubbish. Don't store things near the furnace or heater.			
Are gasoline and other flammable liquids stored in safety cans, and kept well away from both heat and children? Move flammable liquids away from heat. Do not store flammable liquids in the home. Keep them stored outside and away from the house in a separate storage building. Don't fill a hot lawn mower or other motor; let it cool first.			