



PRE-HOME INSPECTION CHECKLIST

TRURO TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT PREVENTION BUREAU: (614) 729-1921

Please use this checklist as a guide to help you prepare for a home inspection for an adoption or foster care. This is not all inclusive and only serves a guide to help you prepare.

Heating

- Baseboard heaters do not touch any furniture or curtains, or other items stored on the floor.
- Only U.L. approved portable heaters are used and they are at least three feet from bedding, furniture, and other combustible materials. They are plugged directly into the wall.
- Every fireplace is equipped with a sturdy metal screen.

Electrical/Utilities

- There are no extension cords or multi-plug adapters in use.
- Electrical cords used are not tacked to walls, run under rugs, or through doorways.
- Replace any missing or broken outlet cover plates or switch plates.
- Are there any electrical hazards present? (open boxes, exposed wiring)
- Are the utilities in good working order?



Housekeeping

- Matches and lighters are kept out of the reach of children in a secure place.
- Flammables are stored in sturdy metal containers and in a cool place.
- Is the area around the furnace free of combustible storage? (Maintain 36" clearance)
- Is the area around the electric panel clear?

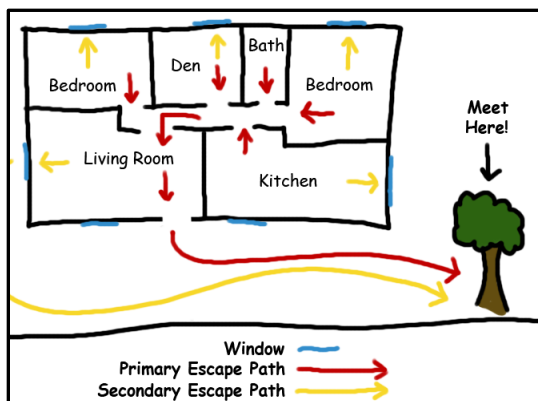


Kitchen

- There is a minimum of 2A-10BC fire extinguisher present in the cooking area
- The oven is never used to heat the home.
- Combustibles are not stored near the cooking surfaces

Smoke Alarms & CO Alarms

- Are there U.L. approved smoke detectors on each level of the home?
- Smoke alarms are installed on the ceiling per the manufacturer's instructions.
- Test Smoke alarms regularly and change at batteries at least once a year.
- Is there a U.L. approved Carbon monoxide alarm located in the home?



Escape Plan

- You have a plan showing two ways out of every room
- You regularly practice your escape plan by holding fire drills.
- Windows used for escaping can be opened easily.
- Your house numbers are clearly visible from the street.

Home Fire Escape Plan

Have a Plan

Make a plan for every room and every member of your home. Mark two ways out of every room. Include windows.

Security Bars

Ensure security bars on windows have quick-release devices. Bars need to be opened easily and quickly from the inside by everyone in the household. Make sure to practice opening them.

Have a Meeting Place

Pick a meeting place outside, well away from the building. Do a head count at the meeting place to make sure everyone got out.

Call 911

Call 911 as soon as you are outside safely.

Stay Out

Once you are outside, stay outside.

Tips for a safe escape

- If you see smoke, try another way out. If you cannot avoid the smoke, crawl under it on your hands and knees.
- Do not stop or go back for anything.
- Possessions can be replaced. You can not.
- Remember fire spreads quickly. Get out fast and stay out. Call 911 as quickly as possible.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

A properly operated fire extinguisher can stop a small fire and keep it from growing. An ABC, multipurpose dry chemical extinguisher is the recommended type.

Before using, be sure you:

- Know how to use it
- Know how to tell if the fire is safe to fight
- Have called 911
- Have alerted others to evacuate
- Can quickly exit if needed

SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

Count your smoke alarms

The Truro Township Fire Department recommends you install at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home, including one in every bedroom.

Check your smoke alarms

Press the test button on smoke alarms each month to make certain they are still working.

Vacuum your smoke alarms

Clean smoke alarms each month of dust and cobwebs to keep them working properly.

Change your batteries

Change smoke alarm batteries at least once a year, or as soon as the alarm “chirps” warning that the battery is low. An easy way to remember is in the fall when clocks are changed from Daylight Saving Time. Long-life batteries do not need to be changed yearly.

Change your alarm

Replace smoke alarms once every ten years.

Know the sound

Make sure everyone in the home can hear and recognize the sound of the smoke alarm and knows how to react immediately. Assistive devices are available for those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Fire Drill Checklist

- The escape plan has been discussed with the family.
- Start the drill with everyone in their room.
- Start the drill by sounding the smoke alarm.
- It's important to recognize the sound of the smoke alarm
- Practice using your main escape routes first.
- Do not run.
- Just go quickly & calmly outside to the meeting place.
- The meeting place is located safely away from building.
- Everyone arrives at meeting place in under two minutes.
- Someone pretends to go call 911 for help.

Know what information to give the 911 dispatcher!

- **Be sure to speak clearly and calmly**
- **Location of Emergency**
- **What is the Emergency**
- **Phone number you are calling from**