



SAFETY TIPS FROM THE GRR FIRE DEPARTMENT

November 2023

Remember to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms once a year unless you install longer-life batteries. That ensures they'll be at their freshest during the winter season when most home carbon monoxide poisonings and a greater number of home fires occur. The key is to be consistent each year even if you pick a different date.

Every home should be equipped with smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Here's a link to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) website for more information:

<https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Staying-safe/Safety-equipment/Smoke-alarms>.

GRR Fire recommends 4- or 5-pound dry chemical ABC fire extinguishers on each floor of a home, especially the kitchen, garage, workshops and vehicles. Inspect your extinguishers yearly: confirm that the pressure gauge is in the "green" then check the age or date of last service. Fire extinguishers should be refilled and re-charged every 6 years. Use the following NFPA link for more information: <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Staying-safe/Safety-equipment/Fire-extinguishers>.

Consider getting an inspection or cleaning of the flues of wood-fired stoves, heaters, and fireplaces. Flammable materials accumulate in flues that can lead to messy and potentially disastrous flue fires. The smaller flues of wood heaters or stoves should be cleaned yearly.

The New Fire Station is complete. The department's vehicles and equipment are all in place. We are continuing the fundraiser in order to prepay down the \$300,000 mortgage that was necessary to complete the project. **Please donate to the Fire Station Fundraiser if you have not already done so.** Donations to the GRRRFD are tax-deductible under Section 170(c)(1) of the IRS code. Please send donations to: Gallatin River Ranch Rural Fire District, PO Box 109, Manhattan, MT 59741.

Please visit the GRR Fire Department website to learn more: <http://www.grrrfd.org/>.