

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

ASAP:

- Establish a plan for escaping your home in the event of fire, smoke
- Primary escape route from each part of the residence
- At least one alternate escape route from each part of residence
- Designate an outside location to meet after escaping from the structure - to ensure everyone is out

Determine which items you would want to get out of your residence in the event of a fire, impending storm, flooding, earthquake:

- Pictures
- Will
- Insurance papers
- Other important and/or irreplaceable documents
- Install a carbon monoxide device with an audible alarm loud enough to wake you - carbon monoxide poisoning is often fatal
- Determine if any plants in your yard are poisonous and have them removed ; or ensure your children and pets do not eat them
- Determine the capacities of decks, balconies, etc.
- Keep specific directions to your house next to each phone - so you can read them to visiting family or friends

To help protect against home invasions and burglaries:

- Determine the non - emergency phone number to call to report suspicious people and/or vehicles to the police and keep it available
- Install a security system (a hard - wired monitored perimeter alarm is probably most effective)
- Post signs around your residence (in your yard, on your windows) stating that your residence is protected by a security system
- Join your Neighborhood Watch program
- Install deadbolt locks with full 1 " bolts
- For sliding glass doors, install a locking bar with a blocking device to prevent the bar from being lifted off its tracks
- Get a dog, or put a large dog food bowl outside your back door with the name " Killer," " Bruno," " Brutus " on it

To get a quick indication of an earthquake:

- Place a bottle upside down on a foil or metal pie tin

Regularly:

- Have your furnace checked (some utility companies perform inspections for free) - can cause carbon monoxide poisoning which is often fatal
- Report suspicious people and activities to the police

If you have a monitored security system:

- Keep it armed, especially when you're home