Ten Life Safety Tips to Live By

1. Maintain all exit doors clear of any storage, inside or out, and ensure they operate as expected.

2. Maintain all hallways clear of storage items of any kind. Failing that, maintain 44" clear space in all hallways, preferably in direct line with egress doors.

3. Maintain all occupied spaces clear of stored items such that individual occupants have 18" of clear space to get to the door and spaces serving 6 or more occupants have 36" clear to get to a door.

4. Control your storage. Ensure that stored items do not block fire extinguishers, pull stations, alarm devices, exit signage, emergency lights, and sprinkler heads. Do not allow storage within 18” of the ceiling, or height of sprinklers, in buildings protected by sprinklers.

5. Limit fuel load. Reduce quantities of flammable and combustible liquids, and limit accumulation of loose paper and cardboard.

6. Ensure that electrical devices connect directly to the wall outlets, or to a plug strip that is connected to the wall outlet. Unplug extension cords at the end of every work shift, inspect all extension cords for damage before each use, and never plug a plug strip into another plug strip.

7. Ensure that any heat generating device (portable heaters, hot pots, coffee pots, irons, etc) draws no more than 15 amps, is UL listed, and has an automatic shut-off feature. Ensure that portable heaters have tip-over detection.

8. Participate fully in fire drills during periods of normal occupancy, debrief with your workgroup or team afterwards, and modify procedures as required. This creates confidence and a culture of preparedness in the community.

9. In case of fire - RACE. Rescue those in immediate danger, Activate the alarm system, Contain the fire by closing doors, and Evacuate the area using the nearest safe exit.

10. Always know the location of two exits, two fire extinguishers, and two fire alarm pull stations - anywhere you are, whether it's home, work or visiting another space.

Have an exit strategy, where you live, work, and play.

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