

	CHECK ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS	Look for warning signs like flickering lights, sparking switches and plugs, and burning smell when appliances are plugged in. Immediately replace defective electrical fixtures.
	UNPLUG ITEMS WHEN NOT IN USE	Appliances still use electricity even when they're turned off and could still overheat and start a fire. Unplugging them may also lessen your electric consumption.
	AVOID PLUGGING SEVERAL DEVICES INTO AN EXTENSION CORD	Maximizing the use of an extension cord may cause the sockets to overheat and start a fire.
	NEVER LEAVE AN OPEN STOVE UNATTENDED	Make sure you focus when the gas stove is turned on.
	CHECK FOR LPG LEAKAGE	Check leaks by applying wet sponge with soap. It is recommended that the hose should be replaced every two years, while the regulators every five years after it was manufactured.
	STORE FLAMMABLE ITEMS IN A SAFE LOCATION	Do not store any flammable substances or any volatile liquid in the kitchen and inside dwelling houses. Keep any flammable substance away from children's reach.
	CLEAR OUT DRIED THINGS	Clearing out dried things like woods and leaves from your surroundings could prevent fire. The intense heat of the sun can ignite a fire on withered things.

TOP CAUSES OF DWELLING FIRES

 1 Number 1 cause of home fires	 2 Number 2 cause of home fires	 3 Number 3 cause of home fires	 4 Number 4 cause of home fires
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For more information contact:

DISASTER MANAGEMENT
041 501 7900

For all EMERGENCIES

041 585 1555



www.nelsonmandelabay.gov.za



DISASTER MANAGEMENT




SCAN HERE
FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING DISASTERS



nelson mandela bay
MUNICIPALITY

If your house or dwelling has burnt down, irrespective of the cause of the fire, do the following:

- **REPORT** it to the nearest SA Police Services station and obtain an Affidavit.
- **CONTACT** the Disaster Management Officer responsible for your area for assistance.
- If you do not know the contact number for the Disaster Management Officer, contact the Emergency Call centre on 041 585 1555 and ask for the contact number for the Disaster Management Official on stand-by.
- **DISASTER MANAGEMENT** must be contacted within **96 HOURS (4 DAYS)** of the incident.
- **NOTIFY** your ward councillor for additional assistance.
- **OBTAIN** a Proof of Fire letter from the nearest Fire station.

YOU don't have to stay in a community hall to qualify for assistance. You can stay with friends, neighbour's or family.

YOU must ensure that your valuables are kept safe at all times. If possible, make copies of your important documents and store them at a relative or friends house.



DO build homes at least three meters apart to prevent fires from spreading.

DO ensure that your home has more than one way out in case of a fire!

DON'T let garden refuse, cardboard and/or wood accumulate between your homes, this is a fire risk!



DO keep matches, lighters, paraffin and poisons safe and far away from young children.

DO use a child safety cap on paraffin bottles.



DO put candles out, lamps and heaters off before you go to sleep or leave your home!

DO use candle holders for your candles.

DON'T smoke in bed it can kill you.



DO keep a bucket of water and a bucket of sand ready to put out small fires before they spread.

DON'T put yourself in danger!



DO turn the electricity off before putting out an electrical fire.
DO use a pot lid or a damp cloth to put out the flames of



When planning your house, make sure that there is more than one **escape route** out of the house. So that in an emergency, all the occupants of the house can get out safely.



DO keep stoves on a flat surface – away from drafts and things that can burn e.g. curtains.

DON'T leave fires, cooking stoves or paraffin lamps unattended.



DON'T make fires indoors without proper ventilation, as this could lead to a build up of poisonous gases in your house that could become deadly to the occupants of the house.



DO use water for wood, paper and material fires.



DO use sand for oil & paraffin fires,
DON'T use water!



DO warn people inside the building to get out!

DO try and put out the fire before it spreads but only if it is safe to do so.

DON'T try and be a hero, it could cost you your life!



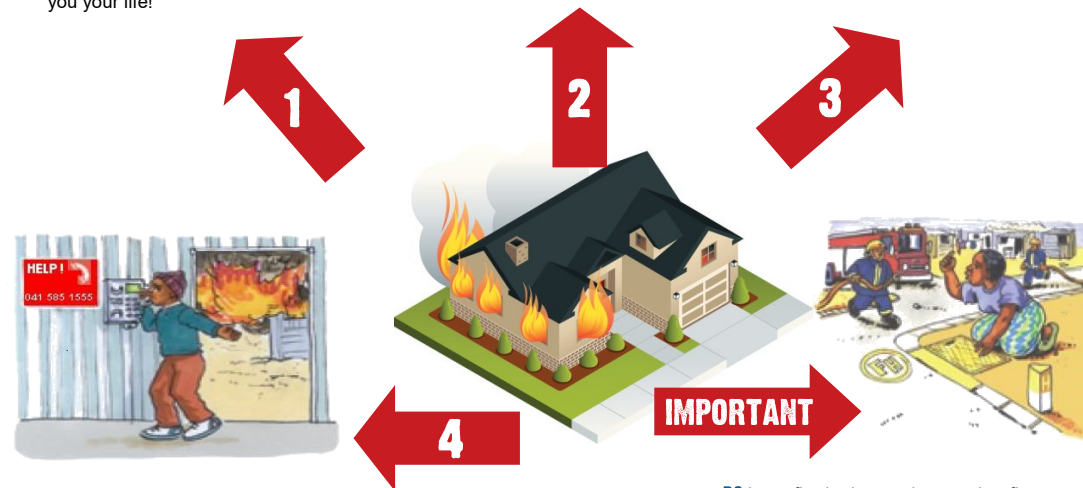
REMEMBER fire is not bright, it is dark and dangerous.

DO crawl low under the smoke to escape the fire & prevent smoke inhalation.



DO help other people get out of the house!

DO make sure all the occupants are accounted for!



DO call the emergency services on **041 585 1555** and get help fast!

The sooner you phone, the sooner help will arrive!

- ☒ Keep emergency telephone numbers near the telephone, that in an emergency, you do not have to look for them.
- ☒ Teach your children how to use the emergency telephone numbers and what information needs to be given to the emergency operators.
- ☒ When making an emergency call, stay calm and answer the questions that the emergency operator will ask you.
- ☒ Remember to give :
 - Your name.
 - The nature of the emergency call e.g. a shack fire.
 - Address of the incident & nearest cross street.
 - A land mark near the incident to help locate it quicker.
 - A contact number in case the emergency operator needs to call you back for additional information.

DO keep fire hydrants clear so that fire fighters can get water to put out the fire.



Keep access routes and roads clear of furniture, other household items and debris. This will allow the fire fighters quicker access to the fire, to begin extinguishing it.

