



7852 Walker Drive, Suite 450
Greenbelt, MD 20770
info@firecorps.org

888.FC.INFO1 (324-6361) toll-free
202.887.4809 office
202.887.5291 fax

Dear Fire Corps Representative:

According to the National Fire Protection Association, U.S. fire departments responded to 399,000 home structure fires in 2007. These fires caused 13,600 civilian injuries, 2,865 civilian deaths, and \$7.4 billion in direct property damage. Recognizing these alarming statistics, Fire Corps has created the Home Safety Checklist to help your Fire Corps team implement a home safety check program in your community.

This Home Safety Checklist provides a basic, step-by-step approach to ensure residents in your community are safer and more secure. The Checklist includes information to fit a variety of household situations, including those where children, older residents, pets, and/or those with disabilities may reside. It also identifies hazards you should look for outside the home to help prevent fires or other emergency situations from occurring.

In an effort to assist your program in providing critical services to your community, Fire Corps has partnered with First Alert to provide a smoke alarm donation program for registered Fire Corps programs. Your program may apply for these free smoke alarms online at www.firecorps.org or by filling out the enclosed application form. Please keep in mind that quantities are limited and restrictions apply.

Thank you for your efforts to make not only your community, but also the emergency personnel in your department safer by checking for and educating residents about dangers in and around homes in your neighborhoods.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Fire Corps national office at 1-888-FC-INFO1 (324-6361) or info@firecorps.org.

Sincerely,

Sarah Lee
Acting Fire Corps Director

Enclosures



Fire Corps and First Alert applaud your efforts to save lives and prevent needless injuries caused by fire. To help with your fire prevention efforts, registered Fire Corps programs can order up to 12 dual sensor smoke alarms, or 24 photo smoke alarms, or 24 ion smoke alarms to install in your community. If your program is not registered with Fire Corps, you can do so for free at www.firecorps.org. To order the smoke alarms, complete the form below and mail, email, or fax it to:

Fire Corps
7852 Walker Drive, Suite 450
Greenbelt, MD 20770
202-887-5291 (fax)
info@firecorps.org (email)

Please state the need for smoke alarms in your community.

How will you utilize the alarms you receive?

Number and type of alarms needed (maximum 12 dual sensor smoke alarms, or 24 photo smoke alarms, or 24 ion smoke alarms):

Contact/Shipping Information (No P.O. Boxes)

Organization: _____

This organization is a/an: Fire/EMS Department Nonprofit Government Other

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Please update us on your success! Send in photos, media coverage, and/or personal accounts of how your Fire Corps team used the donated First Alert smoke alarms to benefit your community. Photos can range from your team members posing with the products to action shots of smoke alarm installations. Email photos and stories to info@firecorps.org.

Signature

The undersigned hereby certifies that the item or items being donated are to be used or consumed in connection with the operation of the exempt institution or agency named in the space provided below, and that the donated items will not be sold for profit by the designated institution or agency. In the event this claim is disallowed, the transferee promises to reimburse the seller for the amount of tax involved.

Date: _____

Name of exempt institution or agency

Signature and title of person making certification

For 50 years, BRK Brands, Inc. has been the manufacturer of First Alert®-branded home-safety products, the most trusted and recognized safety brands in America. BRK® Brands designs and develops innovative safety solutions including Tundra® Fire Extinguishing Spray, ONELINK® wireless alarms and a comprehensive line of smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, fire extinguishers and escape ladders to protect what matters most. BRK Brands, Inc. products are found in more than 30 countries worldwide. For more information, visit www.firstalert.com, www.brkelectronics.com or www.jarden.com.



Home Safety Checklist

Fire Corps is committed to helping residents provide a safe home for themselves and their families. Below are a few items Fire Corps teams can look for in and around the home to lessen hazards and alleviate potential risks. Please note this Checklist is simply a starting point to help residents improve their home safety and does not include all potential risks that may be present in a home.

- Are working smoke alarms located in each bedroom, outside each sleeping area, such as the hallway, and on every level of the home? Test each alarm to ensure the batteries are working properly. First Alert and Fire Corps have partnered to provide smoke alarms to Fire Corps teams performing home safety checks in their communities. To apply for alarms, please use the enclosed application form or apply online at www.firecorps.org/prevention.
- Are fire extinguishers available on every level of the home and near areas where fires are more likely to occur, such as the kitchen, garage, and grill? Make sure the resident knows how to use the extinguisher.
- Are working carbon monoxide detectors located near each bedroom and on every level of the home? Test each detector to ensure the batteries are working properly.
- Do the residents have a fire escape plan? Consider practicing the escape plan with the family and pets and also post a written description of the plan on the refrigerator for reference.
- Is the home equipped with an emergency supply kit? Visit Ready.gov to obtain a list of what should be included in the kit.
- Is a phone accessible to all members in the household? A phone with emergency numbers programmed in or posted nearby should be available so children and older adults can easily call for help in case of an emergency.
- Are elderly residents living in the home? Ensure all throw rugs are secured to the floor with an adhesive and make sure all stairways, paths, and walkways are well lit to prevent falls.
- Can deadbolt locks be unlocked from the inside without a key? Can a child or residents with disabilities work the locks and get out in the event of a fire or other emergency?
- Are young children residing in the home? Make sure child locks are installed on all cabinets used to store dangerous items such as poisons, cleaners, matches, and lighters.
- Are pets living in the home? Refer the family to the Humane Society web site (www.hsus.org/hsus_field/hsus_disaster_center/resources) for safety tips regarding their pets. You may wish to order brochures and/or print information from the site for residents without internet access.
- Does the home have central heat? Check all filters and vents for cleanliness. Also clean out the lint and debris that may build up in the clothes dryer vent that leads to the outside of the house.
- Are all unused outlets covered with safety plugs? Check used outlets to ensure they are not being overloaded. Check cords for frays and warmth.
- Does the home have a pool, hot tub, or other large bodies of water? If so, make sure each is surrounded by five-foot fencing with self-locking and self-closing gates.
- Is the outside of the home fire safe? Ensure dead or dying trees and shrubs are removed; keep dry brush and debris at least 30 feet away from the home; and clear roof, gutters, and eaves of debris.
- Are there candles in the home? Make sure candle placement is away from curtains and other furniture or products where items can easily catch fire. Educate the family about candle safety and alternatives to candles, such as reed diffusers or flameless candles.

