

Fire Prevention Newsletter

FIRST QUARTER | 2025



SMOKE ALARMS

- Place smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms, and outside sleeping areas.
- Change your batteries.
- Test monthly.
- Replace smoke alarms every 10 years from the manufacture date.
- If your smoke alarm sounds, evacuate immediately and call 911. Don't assume it's a false alarm.

Presented by the
Auburn Fire
Department's Office
of Fire Prevention.

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DID YOU KNOW?

On January 31, 1945, a tragic fire took place at a privately operated boarding home in Auburn, which was also serving as an unlicensed nursery. This incident resulted in the heartbreaking loss of 16 infants and a nurse, making it one of the deadliest fires in Maine's history.

On March 1855, a significant fire at Goff's Corners in Auburn destroyed 25 buildings, resulting in a loss of \$75,000—a substantial sum at that time. These events underscore the importance of fire

safety measures and proactive code enforcement to prevent such tragedies. They also highlight the critical role of fire prevention efforts and the need for continuous improvement in fire safety protocols within a community.



Protect Your Family from Carbon Monoxide!

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless gas that can be deadly. Install carbon monoxide detectors near sleeping areas and on every level of your home, especially near attached garages. Test the detectors monthly, replace the batteries yearly, and replace the entire unit every 7-10 years. If your alarm sounds, evacuate immediately and call 911. Stay safe and make sure your CO detectors are always working!

What do I do with my old fire extinguisher?

To safely discharge a fire extinguisher before disposal, start by choosing an outdoor area away from people. Wear gloves and eye protection to avoid exposure to residue. Pull the pin, aim the nozzle at the ground, and squeeze the handle in short bursts until it is fully discharged. Allow the canister to sit for a few hours to ensure all pressure is released. Once empty, take it to a recycling facility, or fire extinguisher company for proper disposal (may require a disposal fee). If unsure, check with your local fire department for guidance.

