

Key West Fire Department

Fire Prevention Office 1600 N. Roosevelt Blvd. 305-809-3933

The Key West Fire Department would like to highlight some simple and important tips that will help prevent fires in your home and keep you and your family safe. House fires CAN happen, to anyone. But with a little bit of awareness and attention, you can do a lot to prevent them.

Here are a few things to keep in mind:

Rechargeable batteries found in electric bikes, mopeds, and scooters are often made of **lithium.**

Lithium batteries can easily overheat, leading to serious fires that spread rapidly. Keep your bike, moped, and scooter batteries and devices at room temperature, keep them away from direct sunlight and any other heat source. Be careful to watch the batteries when charging them, so they don't overheat.

If a scooter battery is smoking or you notice a burning smell from the battery, call 911.

If possible, keep a fire extinguisher in the home.

Smoke alarms are a critical part of keeping you and your family safe. They should be in every room of your home, especially bedrooms. If you hear a smoke alarm beeping or if you believe one isn't working properly, **don't ignore it**. That sound could save your life. Please call the Housing Authority's maintenance hotline right away so they can check the alarm or replace the batteries for you. Most fire-related deaths happen in homes without working smoke alarms, so it's important to act quickly.

Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling or broiling food. Unattended stoves and ovens are one of the easiest causes of fires. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove. If there is ever even a small fire, call 911!

Always have a way to exit a room, whether it be a door or a window, or another means of escape, in case of a fire. Do not block your means of escape with furniture or other objects. Have a plan to leave your house in a hurry if necessary.

STAY SAFE!!!!!