

Fires

If there is a fire in your house, LEAVE the house immediately and move a safe distance from the property. It is a great idea to have a meeting place and at least two plans of exit that you and your family should be familiar with. In this case, it may be better to leave the house, and then notify 911 via a cell phone or neighbors phone.

NEVER remain in the house in an effort to save possessions (which can be replaced) or pets. If you awaken to smoke in your house, ROLL of the bed to the floor and CRAWL out of the dwelling, staying below the smoke. It takes very little exposure to the smoke generated by burning household materials and furniture to render someone unconscious. The air closer to the floor is going to be safer and cooler for you to breath.

If you are faced with a situation of being trapped in a room where there is fire between you and your exit. Shut the door to the room and avoid opening the window. Try blocking the space between the door and the floor to prevent smoke from entering. Opening the window with the door open will provide ventilation for the fire and actually draw the fire into the room towards you. Fire requires oxygen to breathe just as we do, opening a window will provide all the oxygen a fire needs to quickly spread. Keep in mind that a fire doubles in size every 30 seconds when given ample amounts of oxygen (air).