

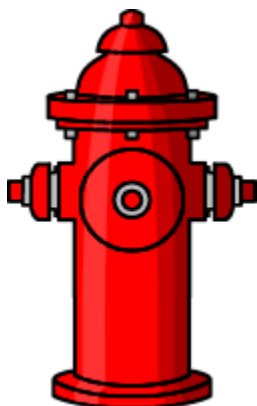
# Inside The North Shore Fire Department



Serving the communities of Bayside, Brown Deer, Fox Point, Glendale, River Hills, Shorewood, Whitefish Bay

Issue 001 January 2010 ~ Quarterly Newsletter

**North Shore Fire Department Mission Statement:** To provide a range of programs designed to educate and protect the lives and property of all North Shore residents from adverse affects of fires, sudden medical emergencies, or exposure to dangerous conditions created by either man or nature.



## “Adopt A Hydrant” Program

### Help the Fire Department – Adopt a Fire Hydrant

As winter approaches, please help the Fire Department by adopting the fire hydrant closest to your home or business and keep it free of snow during the winter.

Please make it a point to uncover your fire hydrant after each and every snowfall. Clear a path approximately 3 feet around the hydrant and shovel a path from the street or roadway up to the fire hydrant. These actions will allow the Fire Department to quickly locate the fire hydrant, obtain a water supply for firefighting activities, and give the fire department room to work with this hydrant should the need arise.

Please consider helping a neighbor with a medical condition or who is elderly, by shoveling out a hydrant in front of their home. This act of kindness will benefit the entire neighborhood.

At a fire, the Fire Department must quickly locate and gain a water supply source from the closest fire hydrant. A fire engine carries enough water on board for approximately 3 ½ minutes of firefighting. If a fire hydrant is buried by snow, it is difficult to find and valuable time must be spent digging it out. It may take from 4 to 6 minutes to dig out a fire hydrant buried by snow. The delay in gaining a water supply from a fire hydrant may disrupt the timely manner in which firefighters are able to fight the fire and may allow a fire to grow. Fire doubles in size every 20 seconds.

The “Adopt A Hydrant” program is an informal program, therefore it is not necessary to advise the fire department of which hydrants you will be clearing snow from.

On behalf of the entire North Shore Fire Department, thank you for keeping the North Shore community’s fire hydrants clear of snow and keeping our communities safe!



## A Day In The Life Of A Firefighter

### Firefighter Work Schedule

24 hour shift

- Average **56** Hour Work Week

**3 Rotating Shifts:** Red, Green & Blue Shifts

#### Serving residents:

**365 days a year, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.**

#### 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- Roll call & crew assignments.
- Respond to fire and emergency medical service (EMS) calls.
- Building maintenance, housekeeping activities.
- Vehicle maintenance, daily vehicle checks.
- Shopping for meals: Firefighters pool their own funds to purchase meal supplies and prepare their own meals.

#### 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- Respond to fire and EMS calls.
- Prepare lunch. Lunch is whenever time allows
- Afternoons can be spent in training, doing fire inspections of local businesses, apartments and manufacturing facilities, attending training, or participating in community events such as fire safety presentations at schools, witnessing of evacuation drills at businesses and schools, presenting apparatus at block parties, and assisting at requested special events just to name a few.

#### 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 a.m.

- Respond to fire and EMS calls.
- Prepare dinner meal and eat as time allows
- Physical fitness training.
- Review day’s fire and EMS reports.
- Discuss day’s activities.

**Safety Tip: When there’s smoke, get low and crawl below the smoke. Smoke rises, the cleaner air is at the bottom of the room.**

## ~ Space Heater Safety Tips ~

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):

- In 2006, heating equipment was involved in an estimated 64,100 reported U.S. home structure fires, with associated losses of 540 civilian deaths, 1,400 civilian injuries, and \$943 million in direct property damage.
- In 2006 heating equipment fires accounted for 16% of all reported home fires (second behind cooking) and 21% of home fire deaths.
- Space heaters, whether portable or stationary, accounted for one-third (30%) of the home heating fires and three-fourths (73%) of home heating fire deaths in 2006.
- In 2003-2006, the leading factor contributing to home heating fires (28%) and deaths (46%) was heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattresses or bedding. These statistics exclude fires that were confined to a chimney, flue, fuel burner or boiler.

If you have a space heater, please review the listed safety tips and do your part in helping to reduce fires and deaths caused by space heaters.

- Read and follow the manufacturer's operating instructions.
- Choose a space heater that has been tested and certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- Buy a heater that is the correct size for the area you want to heat.
- Choose models that have automatic safety switches that turn off the unit if it is tipped over accidentally.

Select a space heater with a guard around the flame area or heating element. Place the heater on a level, hard and nonflammable surface, not on rugs or carpets or near bedding or drapes. Keep the heater at least three feet from bedding, drapes, furniture or other flammable materials.

- Fuel burning space heaters are prohibited for use in the State's Residential and Commercial Building Codes.
- Never leave a space heater on when you go to sleep. Never place a space heater close to any sleeping person.
- Turn the space heater off if you leave the area. Keep children and pets away from space heaters. Children should not be permitted to either adjust the controls or move the heater.
- Do not hang items to dry above or on the heater.
- Keep all heaters out of high traffic and exit areas.
- Keep portable electric heaters away from sinks, tubs and other wet or damp places to avoid deadly electric shocks.

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## The Story of the Maltese Cross

The badge of a firefighter is the Maltese Cross. This Maltese Cross is a symbol of protection and a badge of honor. Its story is hundreds of years old.



When a courageous band of crusaders, the Knights of St. John, fought the Saracens for possession of the Holy Lands, they were faced with a new device of war – fire.

As the crusaders advanced on Jerusalem, the Saracens pelted them with glass bombs full of naphtha and then threw down laming torches. Hundreds of knights were burned alive while others risked their lives to save their kinsmen from painful deaths. Thus these became the first firefighters. Their heroic efforts were recognized by fellow crusaders who awarded them with a badge of honor similar to the cross firefighters wear today.

Since the Knights of St. John lived nearly four centuries on the island of Malta, in the Mediterranean Sea, the cross came to be known as the Maltese Cross. The firefighter who wears this cross is willing to lay down his life for others, just as the crusaders sacrificed their lives for their fellow man so many years ago.

## Resource Websites

**North Shore Fire Department**

[www.nsfire.org](http://www.nsfire.org)

**National Fire Protection Association**

[www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

**Safe Kids Worldwide**

[www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)

**Sparky!**

[www.sparky.org](http://www.sparky.org)

# Remembering When ...

## Senior Fire & Fall Prevention Program

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- ❖ A **free** comprehensive, interactive program for seniors, their caregivers and family members.
- ❖ **Presented in partnership by the North Shore Fire Department & North Shore Health Department.**
- ❖ Presented at your location.
- ❖ 1 to 1-1/2 hours in duration.

Please contact our Public Education Office at 414-228-0292 or [jglanz@nsfire.org](mailto:jglanz@nsfire.org) to schedule your presentation.

## Cooking Fires ...

### The #1 Cause of Home Fires & Home Fire Injuries

The North Shore Fire Department and National Fire Protection Association offer these cooking safety tips:

**Cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries. The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking. It's important to be alert to prevent cooking fires.**

- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

**If you have a cooking fire:**

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call **9-1-1** after you leave.
- Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven or microwave fire turn off the heat and keep the door closed.
- Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.
- Report all fires. Even small fires can generate enough heat to cause smoldering in walls and cupboards adjacent to your cooking appliances - this can later cause a fire to ignite.

## Is Your Address Visible From The Roadway?

- Please take a few moments to make sure your home or business address is clearly visible from the roadway. If your business has multiple tenants, is there a directory of tenants and do all suite doors have a numbering scheme?
- Put yourself in the place of the emergency responders, safely step out onto the curb in front of your home or business. Is your address marker clearly visible? If not, it may affect the time it takes for emergency personnel to locate your home or business in the event of an emergency.
- Time is a critical factor when responding to an emergency situation. The more clearly we are able to identify your home or business address, the more quickly our crews will be able to arrive at your location and administer life-saving procedures.
- So please, take a few minutes to make sure that your home or business address is displayed clearly. If your home or business is located a distance away from the roadway, please ensure that your address is clearly identifiable on your mailbox. To better aide the fire department during an emergency response (if possible) turn on a light adjacent to the entryway to your home or office to further illuminate your address marker.

### - Five Stations Serving Seven Communities -

Bayside, Brown Deer, Fox Point, Glendale, River Hills, Shorewood, Whitefish Bay

#### **Station 1**

##### **Administration**

4401 W. River Lane  
Brown Deer, WI 53223

Station: 414-357-0865  
Administration: 414-357-0113

#### **Station 4**

825 E. Lexington Blvd  
Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

414-963-0515

#### **Station 2**

##### **Battalion Headquarters**

5901 N. Milwaukee River Pkwy  
Glendale, WI 53209

Station: 414-228-5204  
Battalion Chiefs: 414-228-5205

#### **Station 5**

665 E. Brown Deer Rd  
Bayside, WI 53217  
414-351-8904

Fire Marshall 414-228-0246  
Fire Inspector 414-228-1388  
Public Education Specialist  
228-0292

#### **Station 3**

3936 N. Murray Ave  
Shorewood, WI 53211

414-332-4228

## *Newsletter Sign Up ...*

Please contact Public Education Specialist Jill Glanz at [jglanz@nsfire.org](mailto:jglanz@nsfire.org), should you wish to receive a free copy of this quarterly newsletter electronically. Copies of this newsletter will also be available at each of our five stations and on our website at [www.nsfire.org](http://www.nsfire.org).