

Preventing House Fires

Protect your home and family from fire

The following simple measures will help protect your home and family from fire loss.

- Teach your family fire safety.
- Prepare a fire evacuation plan for your family outlining designated escape routes and a central meeting place.
- Practise your fire plan with your family.
- Install smoke alarms in your home and check regularly to make sure they're working.
- Store matches and lighters in a safe place that's outside the reach of children.
- Inspect your home for areas or things that could present a fire hazard, such as overloaded electrical circuits or stored flammables.
- If you operate a wood-burning appliance or fireplace in your home, make sure you're thoroughly familiar with its safe operation and maintenance.
- Contact your SGI CANADA broker to ensure you have adequate insurance coverage to protect your financial interests and obligations in the event of a fire loss to your home.

What to do if you have a fire in your home

- Put your fire plan into action and evacuate all members of your family.
- Phone your local fire department immediately.
- Contact your insurance broker to arrange for an SGI CANADA adjuster to handle your claim.

Facts about house fires

- There's an average of 24,000 house fires a year in Canada.
- There's an average of 377 deaths and 3,048 injuries per year in Canada due to fires.
- Fires in homes account for 90 per cent of deaths and 75 per cent of injuries.
- In virtually all cases where there's an injury or death in a house fire, the home wasn't equipped with working smoke alarms.
- The three areas of the home where fires are most likely to start are the kitchen, bedrooms and living room.

