Dryer Fires & Home Fire Safety/Prevention

Home fires are a genuine threat to the property and lives of people across the United States. In the United States, there were over one million fires in 2011. Of these fires, nearly three thousand resulted in an average of $35 million in destroyed property and roughly one hundred injuries on an annual basis. Failure to clean one's dryer is one of the leading causes of these types of fires. They are preventable. Mechanical and electrical malfunction or failure are also common causes of clothes putting in the wrong materials. For this reason, it is important that families incorporate dryer safety into their usual routine and adults must understand the threat that dryers can pose and what their part is in avoiding the dangers.

To reduce the risk of clothes dryer fires, proper maintenance is required. Dryer fires are common and highly flammable and can become trapped not only in the machine's lint trap, but also around the area that come from clothing and other articles made of materials such as cotton and linen. When lint can ignite the lint and start a fire. For this reason, kids and anyone who uses the dryer must be n lint trap between each load. Lint and dust may also accumulate on the floor around the machine basis. Obstruction of the vent is another way that dryer fires start. If the vents are not cleaned of causing the dryer to overheat and safety sensors within the unit to fail. This may cause the lint in spread to cause a fire. To prevent lint buildup in vents, they should be cleaned at least twice a year. A dryer should be advised of the warning signs, such as clothing taking longer to dry and the dryer inform an adult of any of these signs so that the proper preventative steps can be taken.

For the safety of themselves and their family, people must be able to recognize when a fire is out seconds, turn into one that is too big to contain quickly. When this happens, the main priority is to and foremost it is critical that everyone stay as calm as possible under the circumstances. The bedroom and the smoke will rise, down near the floor is the easiest place to breathe as the air will be less and touch the door first. If the door or knob feels hot to the touch, do not open it. Instead, exit through hanging out a noticeable towel or sheet that is light in color and easy to detect.

A safety checklist is vital to keeping families safe in the event of a fire. The checklist is meant to the family in the event that one does occur. The checklist will also ensure that everyone within the household understand what role they play in keeping the family and themselves safe. For adults, the checklist should include alarms are tested and operational, that each room has been checked for fire hazards, and that a escape plan should be one that allows for two ways to exit every room in the home. Adults must inform the entire family at least twice a year. The fire safety checklist for children involves recognizing other clutter away from exits in the home and the bedroom, and understanding the escape plan a fire is a very real danger, taking the right steps can help reduce the chances of one occurring.

For more information about home fire safety, please view the following links: