



Look. Listen. Learn

Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere.

September 15, 2018 | Hands & Voices Annual Conference – Cheyenne, WY

About us

Meredith Hawes



Valerie Abbott



HANDS &
VOICES™
VIRGINIA

About NFPA



Global non-profit devoted to eliminating death, injury, property and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards.

- Support for development, adoption, and enforcement of codes and standards
- Research and data analysis
- Technical training and certification
- Public education
- Outreach and advocacy

FAST FACTS

- Founded in 1896
- More than 60,000 members
- 6,000 volunteers
- 275+ technical code development committees
- 300 codes and standards
- 300 employees



Valerie's Story



AGENDA

- Why are we here?
- Fire Prevention Week history
- 2018 FPW theme:
 - Look!
 - Listen!
 - Learn!

Why are we here?

- How prepared are you?
- How prepared do you want to be?
- How prepared are other families with deaf and hard-of-hearing children (and adults)?
- How can we spread the word and help save lives?



Fire Prevention Week

LOOK. LISTEN. LEARN.

Be aware.
Fire can happen anywhere.™

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK: OCTOBER 7-13, 2018
firepreventionweek.org



© 2018 NFPA
Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA.

Look!

Look!

- for places fire could start. Take a good look around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.

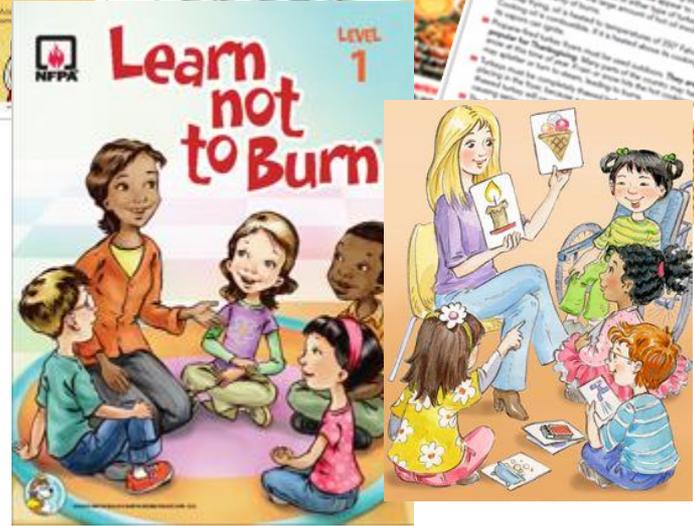
Leading causes of home fire and prevention

- Cooking
- Heating
- Electrical
- Smoking

Cooking

- Unattended cooking
- 3 foot “kid-zone”
- Hot, Sometimes Hot & Not Hot

www.nfpa.org/public-education



Hot /Sometimes Hot/Not Hot!



Video resources

<https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/People-at-risk/People-with-disabilities/Videos-in-American-Sign-Language>



Heating

- Space heaters
- Maintenance
- Proximity



Heating Safety

There is something about the winter months that really get us into a good mood by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths? While a few simple safety tips can prevent your own personal worst heating fire from happening.

DO NOT REMOVE ANY-SAFE FROM HEATERS

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Check a three-foot "hot zone" around your fire and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install, maintain space heating equipment, water heaters or vented heating equipment according to the local code and manufacturer's instructions.
- Repair heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected by you or a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the proper stack or that specified by the manufacturer, for fuel-burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a chimney to stop sparks from flying into the room. Always should be installed with a chimney. Always should be installed with a chimney. Always should be installed with a chimney.
- Use smoke alarms monthly.

Heating Equipment Deaths

Annual avoidable deaths from heating equipment deaths are estimated to be 1,000. Most deaths are preventable. All heating equipment should be tested by the manufacturer or a qualified professional (CPA) annually.

FACT

Half of home heating fires are reported during the months of December, January, and February.

Get the Facts on SAFETY Information

Visit www.nfpa.org



Smoking

- Where people smoke
- Putting them out
- Electronic Cigs/Vaping



Listen!

Listen!

- for the sound of the smoke alarm. You could have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Go to your outside meeting place, which should be a safe distance from the home and where everyone should meet.

Specialized Smoke Alarms



Access to Alarms

- Contact your local fire department
 - Many fire departments have installation programs
 - State office
 - American Red Cross
 - Community Agencies



Learn!

Learn!

- two ways out of every room and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.

Home Escape Plan

- A home escape plan is your way out of your home if you have a fire. After you plan your escape, all family members should practice the escape plan every six months. The more you practice your escape plan, the more prepared you will be to take action in an emergency.
- If you have difficulty making an escape plan, call your local fire department and ask for assistance.

Creating a Home Escape Plan

Steps:

- Draw a map of your home
- 2 ways out of every room
- Windows and doors open easily
- Working smoke alarms



Creating a Home Escape Plan

- House numbers easily seen
- Talk with everyone in your family
- Know emergency numbers
- Practice!



Practice around your abilities



Practice around your abilities

For family members (and kids) who are Deaf

- How to prepare
- What type of specialized alarm do you have?
 - What does it do to alert?
 - How should they respond?
 - Cochlear implants/hearing aids



Fire

Comparison of Room Furnishings

Natural Room

Synthetic Room



03:08



In a Fire...

- Feel your door
- Stay low
- Defend in place
- Get out & Stay out



In a Fire...

Rapid communication is key

- If you are Deaf/hard-of-hearing consider ways you might communicate
 - Pen and paper
 - Dry erase
 - Knox Box
 - Signs and signals





Resources

Thoughts?



Home Fire Sprinklers

Home Fire Sprinklers

Over 80% of fire deaths occur in the home. Home fire sprinklers can save lives and property damage. They respond quickly and automatically to fire, often activating within 300-350° before the fire department arrives. Only use sprinklers chosen by the NFPA with a listing, keeping them on the 2-

SAFETY TIPS

- Home fire sprinklers save lives and property in many situations, a family who has survived a fire will also have their "home" to live in and enough of the things and space in their home to continue living their lives as they did before.
- The cost of a home fire sprinkler system in a new home averages \$1.32 per sprinkled square foot (based on an amount similar to what is used for copper wiring, plumbing, electrical wiring or a half-bath). Source: Fire Protection Research Foundation Study 2013
- A home fire sprinkler system can reduce the homeowner's insurance premium.
- Fire departments typically use roughly 10 times as much water as a fire sprinkler would use to contain a fire. Source: Fire Protection Research Foundation Study 2010
- Fire sprinklers are environmentally friendly. They can reduce the amount of water used and pollution, the damage by up to 21%, and water usage to fight a home fire by as much as 91%. Source: Fire Protection Research Foundation Study 2010
- Close windows or shut them off will not activate a fire sprinkler. Only the high temperature of a fire will activate the sprinkler.
- A home fire sprinkler system is easy to maintain. Just inspect your home to make sure the sprinklers are not blocked by something that would prevent the water from coming out such as paint and be sure the main control valve is never turned off.
- Home fire sprinklers are effective in cold and warm climates. Sprinklers have been treated for proper installation of pipes to avoid pipes freezing. A home fire sprinkler system will be maintained the same as you maintain a domestic water supply.

And Don't Forget...

- MOVING** into an apartment or condominium building: make sure owners sense and install appropriate fire sprinklers.
- REBUILDING** a new house or remodeling an existing home, consider installing a home fire sprinkler system.

FACTS

- More than **2,300** people die in home fires each year.
- In a home fire, the risk of dying decreases by about **80%** when the home is equipped with a fire sprinkler system.

Visit FireSprinklerInitiative.org Visit NFPA's Fire Sprinkler Initiative website for more information.

The University of Maryland System
Bringing Safety Home

Home Fire Sprinkler
The University of Maryland System
Bringing Safety Home

© 2014 National Fire Protection Association
NFPA Education Division • 1 Research Park, Quincy, MA 01906

Make a Convincing Case for Home Fire Sprinklers

Smoke alarms aren't enough
Make no mistake: smoke alarms are crucial and significantly cut the risk of dying in a home fire. But these devices do nothing to suppress a fire. Home fire sprinklers in coordination with smoke alarms have been proven to protect lives and property against fire. In fact, sprinklers cut the risk of dying in a home fire by an astounding **80 percent**.

SAFETY TIPS

- Home fire sprinklers save lives and property in many situations, a family who has survived a fire will also have their "home" to live in and enough of the things and space in their home to continue living their lives as they did before.
- The cost of a home fire sprinkler system in a new home averages \$1.32 per sprinkled square foot (based on an amount similar to what is used for copper wiring, plumbing, electrical wiring or a half-bath). Source: Fire Protection Research Foundation Study 2013
- A home fire sprinkler system can reduce the homeowner's insurance premium.
- Fire departments typically use roughly 10 times as much water as a fire sprinkler would use to contain a fire. Source: Fire Protection Research Foundation Study 2010
- Fire sprinklers are environmentally friendly. They can reduce the amount of water used and pollution, the damage by up to 21%, and water usage to fight a home fire by as much as 91%. Source: Fire Protection Research Foundation Study 2010
- Close windows or shut them off will not activate a fire sprinkler. Only the high temperature of a fire will activate the sprinkler.
- A home fire sprinkler system is easy to maintain. Just inspect your home to make sure the sprinklers are not blocked by something that would prevent the water from coming out such as paint and be sure the main control valve is never turned off.
- Home fire sprinklers are effective in cold and warm climates. Sprinklers have been treated for proper installation of pipes to avoid pipes freezing. A home fire sprinkler system will be maintained the same as you maintain a domestic water supply.

And Don't Forget...

- MOVING** into an apartment or condominium building: make sure owners sense and install appropriate fire sprinklers.
- REBUILDING** a new house or remodeling an existing home, consider installing a home fire sprinkler system.

FACTS

- More than **2,300** people die in home fires each year.
- In a home fire, the risk of dying decreases by about **80%** when the home is equipped with a fire sprinkler system.

Visit FireSprinklerInitiative.org Visit NFPA's Fire Sprinkler Initiative website for more information.

The University of Maryland System
Bringing Safety Home

Home Fire Sprinkler
The University of Maryland System
Bringing Safety Home

© 2014 National Fire Protection Association
NFPA Education Division • 1 Research Park, Quincy, MA 01906

Make a Convincing Case for Home Fire Sprinklers

Support the adoption of home fire sprinkler requirements by highlighting these **key points** to community members, legislators, and code-making authorities.

Home fires are a major problem in North America
Fire in the home poses a significant threat to the people of your community. On average, **2,500** people each year are dying in U.S. home fires. Further showcasing the enormity of this problem is that roughly **80 percent** of all fire deaths are the result of home fires.

Smoke alarms aren't enough
Make no mistake: smoke alarms are crucial and significantly cut the risk of dying in a home fire. But these devices do nothing to suppress a fire. Home fire sprinklers in coordination with smoke alarms have been proven to protect lives and property against fire. In fact, sprinklers cut the risk of dying in a home fire by an astounding **80 percent**.

Sprinklers do more than save lives
Sprinklers can also save your home. In fact, these devices can reduce the average property loss per home by about **70 percent**.

Home fire sprinklers are cost effective
A report commissioned by the Fire Protection Research Foundation places the average national cost of installing sprinklers in new homes at **\$135** per sprinkled square foot, or about **one percent** of the total construction cost. While costs can vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, people tend to pay more for granite countertops.

Beware of false claims
Sprinkler opponents like to tout that "newer homes are safer homes." In actuality, newer homes tend to have larger open spaces, lightweight construction materials, and furniture stuffed with combustible materials—all factors that exacerbate fire spread and lead to homes burning more quickly than ever before. These threats place both homeowners and firefighters at significant risk.

Dispel myths on sprinkler effectiveness
Hollywood has it wrong: when one home fire sprinkler goes off, the rest don't follow. Nearly **85 percent** of the time, only one sprinkler activates during a fire. And since sprinklers use significantly less water to suppress a fire than a fire hose, water damage is significantly reduced.

FireSprinklerInitiative.org
Visit NFPA's Fire Sprinkler Initiative website for more information.

NFPA **FIRE SPRINKLER INITIATIVE**
Bringing Safety Home

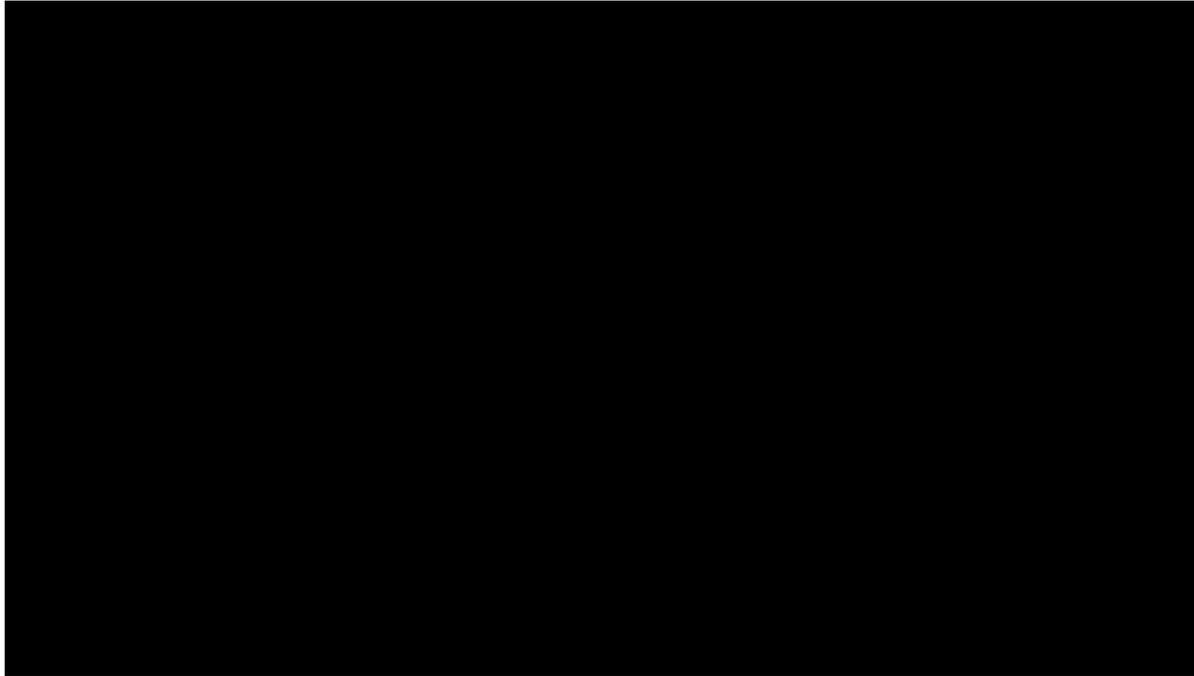
*Data referenced by NFPA and other sources



Home Fire Sprinklers & Hollywood



Home Fire Sprinklers for real



For Kids!

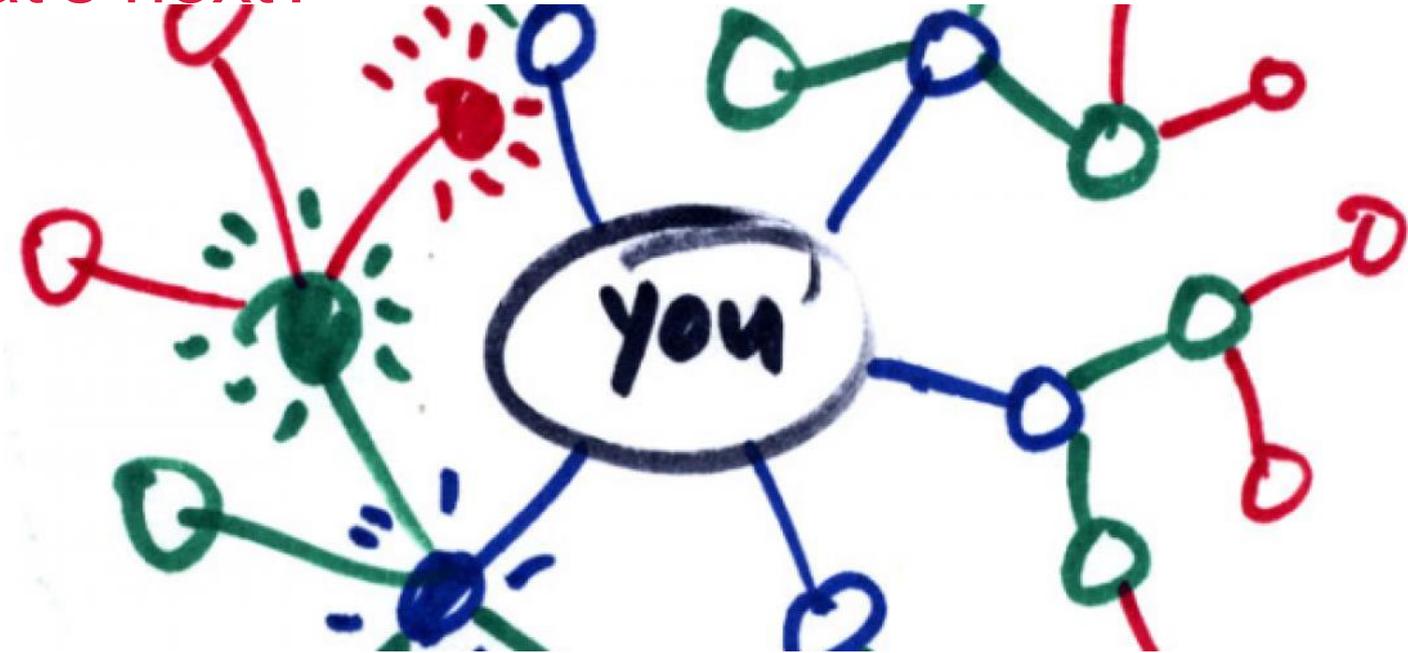
Sparky.org



Kids



What's next?



It's Time to Take Action

AT HOME:

- Talk with your family
- Identify improvement areas
- “3 is Key” – take action on 3 things within 3 weeks of getting home

IN MY COMMUNITY:

- Talk with my Hands & Voices chapter leaders
- Identify improvement areas
- “3 is Key” – take action on 3 things within 3 months of getting home



Fire Safety Programming for Communities:

CREATE A LEARNING OPPORTUNITY
IN YOUR COMMUNITY:

- Contact the NFPA to discuss ways to improve fire safety and preparedness among families with children who are d/hh in your state
- Identify local partners and state agencies, such as your state fire marshal, Red Cross, department for the deaf and hard of hearing



Are You Prepared?

During a house fire, people with hearing loss are at an increased risk.

REGISTER TODAY!

FIRE SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS
WORKSHOP FOR THE DEAF AND
HARD-OF-HEARING

Wednesday, November 8, 2017

10:00am Live Webinar for Families
7:00pm In-Person Training for Families

TO REGISTER: www.abcdefg.org

Sponsored by:



Fire Safety Programming in Virginia:

To view the recorded Webinars:

- www.vahandsandvoices.org
- Click on '2017 Fire Safety Webinars'
- Create an NFPA profile to view the Webinars

People with hearing loss are at increased risk during a house fire...

Is your family prepared?

Save the Date
Every Second Counts for Everyone

Fire Safety and Preparedness Webinar Training for Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing Virginia Residents and Families of Children with Hearing Loss

Wednesday, November 8
10:00am ET Webinar
7:00pm Webinar/Live Viewing
Location in Henrico, VA

Sponsored/Supported by:

NFPA Fire & Life Safety Council Henrico County Fire Department HANDS & VOICES VIRGINIA

Contacts

NFPA Regional Education Specialists & the Public Education Network

- [Meredith Hawes](#)
+1 617 984-7237 / mhawes@nfpa.org
Central / Mid-Atlantic Region
Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin
- [Kelly Ransdell](#)
+1 617 984-7235 / kransdell@nfpa.org
New England / Southern Region
Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Vermont
- **Western Region** Meredith: KS, NE, SD, ND, MT, WY, CO, NM
Kelly: ID, UT, NV, AZ, WA, OR, CA, AK, HI
Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming
- [Laura King](#)
+1 289 838-5158 / canadacr@nfpa.org
Canadian Public Education Representative
Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Quebec, and Yukon



QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU

Meredith Hawes
NFPA
mhawes@nfpa.org

Valerie Abbott
Virginia Hands & Voices
vahandsandvoices@gmail.com

www.nfpa.org/public-education



IT'S A BIG WORLD.
LET'S PROTECT IT TOGETHER.™



IT'S A BIG WORLD.
LET'S PROTECT IT TOGETHER.™