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October 11, 2017

NEWS RELEASE

EPFD encourages the public to practice fire safety during Fire Prevention Week

EL PASO, Texas – The El Paso Fire Department would like to encourage the entire community to take part in Fire Prevention Week by reviewing and practicing fire safety plans. Fire Prevention Week takes place this entire week (October 8-14), and aims at increasing public awareness on fire safety and the prevention of fire-related injuries, deaths, and property damage.

During Fire Prevention Week, families, schools, business and industries are encouraged to take the time to review and practice a variety of fire safety measures. As an International Accredited and Class 1 ISO rated fire department, EPFD places a high priority on fire prevention and education. To help the community better identify areas of focus when discussing fire safety, the topics listed below will help guide fire prevention discussions and activities during Fire Prevention Week and throughout the year:

- Fire drills and escape routes
- Dangers of matches and lighters
- Halloween safety (candle decorations and costume hazards)
- Smoke alarm maintenance
- Cooking safety
- Turkey frying dangers
- Holiday decoration hazards
- Electrical safety
- Winter/heater safety
- Fireplace safety
- Carbon monoxide and smoke detector

EPFD wants the public to know that fire prevention should not just be a weeklong focus, but an everyday practice. To learn more about fire safety, visit the EPFD's website at www.elpasotexas.gov/fire-department/divisions/fire-prevention

Fire Prevention Week History:

President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the first National Fire Prevention Week on October 4-10, 1925, beginning a tradition of the President of the United States signing a proclamation recognizing the occasion. It is observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls, in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire in which more than 250 lives were lost and over 17,000 structures destroyed.

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Promote Transparent and Consistent Communication Among All Members of the Community