

# Fire Prevention Begins at Home

Monday, 05 October 2009

Normal  
0  
false  
false  
false  
MicrosoftInternetExplorer4

{audio}/images/stories/mp3/091005.fire\_prevention.mp3{/audio}

Diana Gish/KMXT

October is Fire Prevention Month in Alaska. Fire safety prevention may not sound like an exciting topic but its one that can save your life and the lives of those you love.

-- (Fire Prevention 1 "Fire that doesn't ...to put out.")

That's Dave Tyler, State Fire Marshall. He was in Kodiak recently to do a review of area fire departments and to help draw attention to Fire Prevention Month.

For many years, Alaska has had one of the highest death rates by fire in the country. For that reason, Alaska focuses an entire month on making people more aware of how to prevent fires.

The challenge of fighting fires in communities throughout Alaska led to the creation of project "Code Red" as Tyler explains:

-- (Fire Prevention 2 "and its basically ... that is there.")

The primary focus of fire prevention month is on teaching school children. Tyler hopes that the children will take the message home with them.

-- (Fire Prevention 3 "It's the responsibility ... that we're making.")

One of the responsibilities of Kodiak's fire departments is to conduct inspections and to enforce building codes. Something the State Fire Marshall says is usually

not appreciated.

-- (Fire Prevention 4  
know ... of our goals.")

"You

In  
the U.S.  
around 3,000 people died last year as a result of fires. Most of those deaths  
were in homes with no working smoke alarms. Cooking is the leading cause of  
home fires and that is usually caused by unattended cooking. Smoking is the  
cause of one out of four fire deaths in the U.S. . Heating, electrical and  
lighting equipment are the next biggest causes of home fires. Having working  
smoke alarms at home doubles your chance of surviving a home fire. Having and  
practicing a home escape plan greatly increases your chances of surviving a  
home fire.

I'm  
Diana Gish.