

What Can The Community Do?

- Prevent curiosity firesetting in the first place: provide fire safety education for children and youth throughout the year.
- Organize a coordinated, community-based, screening/intervention program.
- Identify and provide for the child's and family's needs (fire safety education, counseling, social services, etc.) using community resources.
- Assist parents/caregivers, and all who work with children, to better understand children's involvement with fire (when and where to go for help).

a **note** to parents and caregivers

- Teach young children that fire and fire tools are for grown-ups to use.
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach, in high, ideally locked, cabinets.
- Supervise young children.
- Ask young children to tell you when they find matches and lighters, and put them away.
- Teach older children proper techniques in using fire and fire tools - how to strike a match safely or light a candle with supervision.
- Praise your child for practicing responsible behavior and showing respect for fire.
- Set a good example: use matches, lighters, and fire carefully. Keep your home fire safe.

about **fire** & fire safety

- Fire is dangerous and can be deadly.
- Even small fires spread quickly.
- Never leave the stove or a burning candle unattended.
- Install and maintain smoke alarms for early warning.
- Plan and practice a home fire escape drill.
- Inspect your home often for fire hazards.

if

- If you know of a firesetter child in need of assistance...
- If you want more information about children firesetting and juvenile arson...
- If you want to offer support to your local child firesetter community-based program...

For more information or copies of this publication, please contact:

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Children and Fire

A Growing Concern...



FEMA

