

Huronia



SAFETY ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES ... AND THEIR PARENTS!

In the weeks ahead, physical distancing and families choosing to self-isolate to help minimize the spread of COVID-19 means that NOW is the time to work on some family projects and teach your children the importance of fire safety and emergency preparedness. Here's a list to get you started!

1. Make a fire escape plan. The ability for you and your family to get out of your home quickly in the event of a fire may help save lives. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has created content for you to use with your children to design your home fire escape plan. [Click here for the download.](#) The Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor General and the Office of the Fire Marshal has also developed tips and tricks for developing a home fire escape plan, [click here for more details.](#) And [click here](#) for detailed information about fire safety in apartment and high-rise buildings.
2. With the unseasonably warm weather now is the time to check and clean your sump pump to ensure it can handle increased snow-melt and rain (surface runoff). Sump pumps require regular maintenance because parts can wear or rust. Check to ensure that the sump pump pit is clear of debris, that the motor is in an upright position and not tilted to one side and then test the sump pump to make sure it is operating properly. [If you have any questions about having your sump pump monitored in your home or other environmental security measures, we would be happy to help, so please contact us.](#)
3. Have your kids conduct a safety audit of your residence and report back to you!
 - Have them ensure electronic devices like mobile phones, tablets and laptops are being charged on hard surfaces and not on pillows, couches or bedding, where they can more easily overheat and catch on fire.
 - In each room, is the exit point free and clear of furniture or other obstacles that could get in the way and prevent you from leaving the room safely in the event of an emergency (don't forget to check what's in front of windows too!)?
 - Ensure your dryer vent is clear of debris to promote proper venting
 - Have them ring a fire bell once a day so you can practice your fire safety escape plan!
 - Start making a list now for different items to have on hand with each season in case there is a severe weather event or another public health risk event. Think about things like having a flashlight in the main rooms of the house when the winter days come earlier and power outages are more frequent. What about having enough bottled water

to last 72 hours if there should be a problem with water supply in your area ... don't forget that pets need water too and they should always be included in your safety plans!

Our colleagues at the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) have created some fun and informative videos that will be sure to inspire your kids to get involved in testing your smoke detectors and planning your home fire escape plans.



Smoke Detectors
Dan Doofus: An Alarming Trend



Home Fire Escape Planning
Dan Doofus - "Exit Strategy"



Every second counts in a home fire!

WATERBUGS AND FLOOD DETECTORS

Many of our customers have high water sump pit detectors. And that's great! But many do not have, or have not heard of waterbug floor sensors. The sump pump pit detector only detects if water is rising in the pit, but the waterbug floor sensor can detect water coming from above (ie in the event of a burst pipe). The units can monitor up to as many as six sensors up to a

hundred feet away. Each sensor has surface contacts that will detect the first appearance of water forming a film on the floor. They can be connected to new or existing alarm panels. We also offer a wireless solution if running wires to critical areas is not feasible.

These waterbug flood detectors are ideal for residential and vacation homes, computer rooms, document storage areas, basements, commercial warehouses, offices and unattended building locations as well.

Protect your home, equipment, assets and perhaps save on insurance. [Contact us to talk about this enhanced water detection system.](#)

COVID-19 ANNOUNCEMENT: WHAT WE ARE DOING AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

The full details outlining our efforts to help minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus are available on our website - [please click here to read the news story](#). In short:

- We have contingency plans in place for these types of situations
- We will continue to provide our customers with the same high level of service that you have become accustomed to
- We own and operate our own TMA Five Diamond, ULC listed monitoring stations (located in Midland and Utterson, Ontario) and we are wholly responsible for the staffing and operations of these locations. If there is a need for any of our monitoring station staff to self-isolate, or in the event of contamination of one or both of our monitoring stations, please rest assured that part of our contingency plan makes provisions for these unique situations. Our staff are trained, ready to respond and we have the technology to work remotely should the need arise.

What can you do to help us? We ask that, where possible, customers and suppliers please refrain from visiting our offices during this time of encouraged physical distancing. As an added precaution we have closed all of our offices to the public at this time. Invoices can be paid online or by calling the numbers noted on your invoice. This practice will help to mitigate the spread of the virus to both our staff and customers. We remain hopeful that this situation is short-lived.

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