



NEWS



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- It's important to have an escape plan in case of fire

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Tracey Martinez, Fontana Herald News

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The **San Bernardino County Fire** Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association, the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years, to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!"

The campaign works to educate everyone about the small but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe. Fire Prevention week is Oct. 6-12 this year.

NFPA statistics show that in 2017, U.S. fire departments responded to 357,000 home structure fires. These fires caused 2,630 fire deaths and 10,600 fire injuries. On average, seven people died in a fire in a home per day during 2012 to 2016.

"These numbers show that home fires continue to pose a significant threat to safety," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. "In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Escape planning and practice can help you make the most of the time you have, giving everyone enough time to get out."

While the San Bernardino County Fire Department and the NFPA are focusing on home fires, these messages apply to virtually any location.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department is hosting a series of events in support of this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign.

In Fontana, the Fire Department will participate in the annual "Let's Move on the Trail" celebration on Saturday, Oct. 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will be at John B. Roberts Fire Station 71, 16980 Arrow Boulevard in the downtown area.

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in San Bernardino County, call (909) 386-8400. For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and home escape planning, visit www.fpw.org.

(Tracey Martinez is the public information officer for the San Bernardino County Fire Department.)

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