

Commissioner Alphonse Petracco invites Residents to visit the Fire Department's Open House Friday, October 13th 6:30

“Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!”

If you woke up to a fire in your home, how much time do you think you would have to get to safety? According to the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), one-third of American households estimated they thought they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life threatening. Unfortunately, the time available is often less.

Under the direction of Commissioner Alphonse Petracco, Deputy Chief Paul Cafone and the Nutley Fire Department are teaming up with NFPA during Fire Prevention Week, October 8-14, 2017 to urge residents to “Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!”. This year’s theme focuses on the importance of having an effective and usable escape plan for your home and for your family.

In 2015, U.S. fire departments responded to 365,500 home structure fires. These fires caused 11,075 civilian injuries, 2,650 civilian deaths, and \$7.0 billion in direct damage.

“Home fires killed an average of eight people every day in recent years,” says Deputy Chief Cafone. “Fire is unpredictable and moves faster than most people realize. Roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when most people are asleep. The importance of having an escape plan cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half.” To maximize safety in your home, join with other family members.

The Nutley Fire Department recommends the following tips for establishing an escape plan in your home:

- Draw a map of your home (PDF) with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can’t help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

Join us at our Fire Department Open House on Friday, October 13th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in Nutley, please contact the Nutley Fire Department at 973-284-4937. To learn more about “Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!” visit NFPA’s Web site at www.firepreventionweek.org.