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EVERY SECOND COUNTS! PLAN 2 WAYS OUT!

Practice your home fire escape plan during Fire Prevention Week

HALTON HILLS, ON –Chief John deHooqe is urging families in Halton Hills to practice their home fire escape plan as part of Fire Prevention Week. This year’s Fire Prevention Week theme, which runs from October 8-14, 2017, is “Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!”

“Fire and smoke move faster than you,” said Chief deHooqe “There’s no time to figure out how to escape your home AFTER a fire starts. Practice an escape plan BEFORE there’s a fire so you can get out safely.”

In a fire, you may have just seconds to safely escape your home. Be prepared in advance with these simple steps for home fire escape planning:

- **Assess the needs of everyone in your home**
Identify anyone who requires assistance to get out of the home safely, such as small children or older adults.
- **Make sure that you have working smoke alarms on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas**
Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm.
- **Identify all possible exits (doors and windows) and make sure they work**
Know two ways out of all areas, if possible.
- **Everyone must know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds**
Assign someone to help those who need assistance.
Identify a safe meeting place outside.
Call the fire department from outside the house – from a neighbour’s home or a cell phone.
- **Practice your home fire escape plan at least twice a year**
Have everyone participate.
Make changes to your plan if necessary.

“Fall is a time when families in Halton Hills come together. When people are particularly busy with the details of the season, having a solid fire escape plan is not just important: it’s critical. We want to see everyone safe, happy and whole during a time reserved for joy,” said Councillor Bryan Lewis.

Visit Town Hall during Fire Prevention Week to pick up educational materials, or speak with members of the Halton Hills Fire Department throughout the week at Canadian Tire and Home Hardware in Georgetown and Acton.

About the Town of Halton Hills

The Town of Halton Hills, with a population of approximately 60,000, consists of two urban centres, Georgetown and Acton, the Halton Hills Premier Gateway employment area, three hamlets – Glen Williams, Stewarttown and Norval – and several smaller settlements. Halton Hills has long been recognized for its natural beauty, active agricultural community, high quality of life and proximity to major centres, including Brampton, Mississauga and Toronto. The Town is ranked as one of the top small communities in Canada by a national magazine.

Communications Contact:

Alex Fuller,
Manager of Corporate Communications
905-873-2601, ext. 2412
afuller@haltonhills.ca

Media Contact:

Mark Burger-Acting Captain Public Education
Halton Hills Fire Department
905-873-2601, ext. 2115
markb@haltonhills.ca