



MONTCLAIR FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY 07042
(973) 509-4764 or 65



“OPERATION E - D - I - T - H”

“**OPERATION E-D-I-T-H**” means “**EXIT DRILLS IN THE HOME.**” It is a **FAMILY PLAN** for **FIRE SAFETY**. Exit Drills train families in orderly escape from fire and the purpose of an EXIT DRILL IN THE HOME is to learn by doing. It is important for **FAMILIES** to **plan** and **practice** methods of evacuation in case of an emergency...making sure there are **two** means of escape from each room. **Develop** habit patterns **NOW** to insure Family Safety! A few United States fire experiences in 2002 and 2003 will help stress the importance of **EXIT DRILLS IN THE HOME:**

- ❖ *Public fire departments responded to 389,000 reported home fires in 2002, resulting in 2,670 deaths, 13,650 injuries and \$5.9 billion in direct property damages.*
- ❖ *In 2003, the bedroom area represented 15% of where fires originated in residential properties in New Jersey*
- ❖ **Smoking** was the leading cause of home fire deaths overall, but in the months of December, January and February **smoking and heating** equipment caused similar shares of fire deaths.
- ❖ **Cooking** was the leading causes of homes fires and home fire injuries year-round. **In 2003, the kitchen** represented **48%** of where fires originated in residential properties in New Jersey.
- ❖ **Children** five and under, accounted for **17%** of the home fire deaths.
- ❖ Only one-fifth of home fire deaths from 1989-1998 were caused by fires, which a smoke alarm was present and operated.
- ❖ In 2002, a total of 37, 860 firefighters were injured while fighting a fire.
- ❖ More people **must** use and **maintain** **Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors**, and they must **develop** and **rehearse** home escape plans, once every month!
- ❖ Fire Drills are required in schools, hospitals and some places of employment, but **are neglected in the American Home. Drill every month with the entire family.**
- ❖ **Exit Drills** reduce chances of panic, injury or death in case of fires or other disasters, and trained informed people have a much better chance to survive these situations.
 - ❖ Sources: September/October 2002 and 2003 NFPA Journals and State of New Jersey 2001-2003 Fire Reports

THE PLAN

To have each Montclair Family prepare and conduct an **Exit Drill in the Home** at:

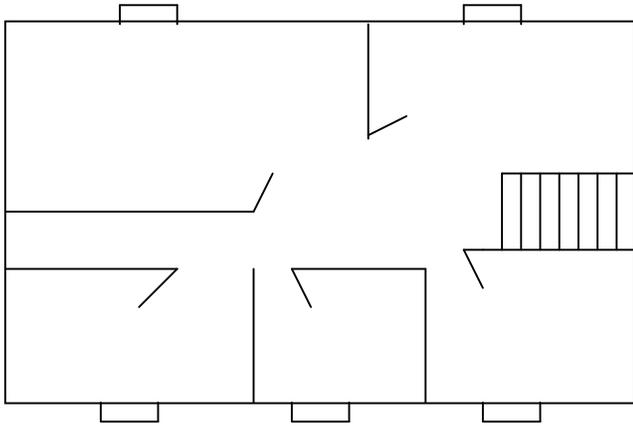
8:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11, 2006

Mark your calendar **Now!** Watch for additional information on the Montclair Website, Montclair's Public Access Channel 34, in the Montclair Times, visit any of our fire stations, or call The Montclair Fire Prevention Bureau at **(973) 509-4764 or 65.**

FAMILY PREPARATIONS

1. **Have** a **FAMILY CONFERENCE** now-plan ahead-involve every member- include babysitter.
2. **Draw** a diagram of your home or apartment. **Identify** rooms, halls, doors, stairs, windows, outer ledges, and porches (see the sample on the reverse side).
3. **Discuss** escape routes from each room and review “**SAFETY RULES**” on the reverse side of this paper.
4. Third floors with one means of escape are especially hazardous. **Determine** any emergency equipment needed for your family and plan to **secure it now.**
5. **Know how** to call your FIRE DEPARTMENT for help--911

**PLEASE PARTICIPATE WITH THE MONTCLAIR FIRE DEPARTMENT AND CONDUCT YOUR
“OPERATION E-D-I-T-H” ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2006 AT 8:00 P.M.**



SYMBOLS

Normal Exit =	Use Black Arrow
Emergency Exit= (windows, porch, etc.)	Use Red Arrow
Doors =	Slant Line
Windows=	Box Marked "W"
Porch =	Dotted Broken Line
Stairs =	Several Small Lines

This is a GUIDE to help you.
Draw your own house plan and mark.

SAFETY RULES

- KEEP CALM. DO NOT PANIC. THINK!**
- If you smell smoke, arouse the FAMILY. **GET EVERYONE OUT OF THE HOUSE!**
- Call** your FIRE DEPARTMENT. For all emergencies 9-1-1 or Dial the "OPERATOR" and clearly give ADDRESS, STREET AND TOWN.
- Things to keep in mind:
 - Before** you open any door, feel the door with the back of your hand. If door is HOT...Seek another way of escape. **Do Not Open The Door.**
 - If the room is filled with smoke, **KEEP CLOSER TO THE FLOOR** where you can breathe more easily.
 - Remember**...a porch, balcony, ledge or tree can provide temporary safety.
 - NEVER RE-ENTER A BURNING BUILDING FOR ANYTHING! GET OUT & STAY OUT!**
- Plan NOW** where your family will MEET after evacuating the home. This will help you notify the firefighters that EVERYONE is safe in the event of a real fire.

WRITE "YES" OR "NO" TO THE FOLLOWING CONCERNING YOUR BEDROOM:

- Are there 2 ways of escape from the room? _____
- Can the ground be reached safely from the window? _____
- Is the window large enough to get through? _____
- Can the storm window be easily opened from inside? _____
- Does the room have a door to close against Smoke or Fire? _____
- Is there a porch, roof, ledge or tree to climb onto? _____

TAKE TIME NOW...PLAN FOR "OPERATION E-D-I-T-H" --- WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11TH AT 8:00 P.M.

8:00 P.M. Emergency Alert sirens will sound two 15-second blasts to start "OPERATION E-D-I-T-H" supplemented by Fire, Police and Ambulance sirens and air horns.

8:10 P.M. Sirens and air horns will sound one 20-second blast for "ALL CLEAR"

PRACTICE YOUR HOME ESCAPE PLAN WITH THE ENTIRE FAMILY! WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11TH AT 8:00 P.M.