

The Desire to Serve
The Courage to Act
The Ability to Perform

R. Kurt Cook, Fire Chief
Salt Lake City Fire Department
ISO Class 2

Salt Lake City Fire Department January 2010 Community Newsletter



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Mission Statement

To protect life, the environment and property from events or occurrences that could otherwise have a detrimental impact on our quality of life.

Our mission is accomplished through...

1. Community education and prevention
2. Emergency response
3. Preparation and planning
4. Networking with other agencies and jurisdictions



2009 Year End Call Volume Totals

Medical Calls	20,622
Fire Calls	5,487

December 2009 Responses

Station 1	288
Station 2	445
Station 3	177
Station 4	129
Station 5	309
Station 6	250
Station 7	212
Station 8	382
Station 9	64
Station 10	155
Station 11	193
Station 12	257
Station 13	99
Station 14	119

2009 Year End Response Totals

Station 1	4021
Station 2	5359
Station 3	2163
Station 4	1563
Station 5	3674
Station 6	3164
Station 7	2575
Station 8	4542
Station 9	757
Station 10	1781
Station 11	2242
Station 12	2626
Station 13	928
Station 14	1568

Salt Lake City Fire Department Announces the "Ask the Chiefs" Series



"Ask the Chiefs" is a new public dialogue series in partnership with the City Library, and is your opportunity to ask the Capital City's Top Firefighter and Top Cop questions about public safety in your neighborhood. SLC Fire Chief Kurt Cook and Police Chief Chris Burbank will host question & answer sessions on:

- 7 p.m. Jan. 21: Day-Riverside Branch, 1575 West 1000 North
- 7 p.m. Jan. 28: Sprague, 2131 South 1100 East
- 7 p.m. Feb. 11: Sweet, 455 F Street (9th Avenue)
- 7 p.m. Feb. 18: Anderson-Foothill, 1135 South 2100 East
- 7 p.m. Feb. 25: Main Library, Conference Rooms B&C, 210 East 400 South

"Ask the Chiefs" will be videotaped and posted on YouTube and broadcast on SLC Channel 17 to extend the value of the dialogue series beyond those who may attend. You may also submit questions in advance by sending an email to askthechiefs@slc.gov.



Check Your Hotspots

Each year fire claims the lives of 3,500 Americans, injures 20,000, and causes billions of dollars worth of damage. The misuse of wood stoves, portable space heaters and kerosene heaters are especially common risks. Fire dangers can be reduced by learning to recognize the hazards. By following some of the outlined precautionary steps, individuals can greatly reduce their chances of becoming a fire casualty.

Wood Stoves

- Wood stoves cause over 4,000 residential fires every year. Carefully follow the manufacturer's installation and maintenance instructions.
- Look for solid construction, such as plate steel or cast iron metal.
- Check for cracks and inspect legs, hinges and door seals for smooth joints and seams.
- Use only seasoned wood for fuel, not green wood, artificial logs, or trash.
- Inspect and clean your pipes and chimneys annually and check monthly for damage or obstructions.
- Be sure to keep combustible objects at least three feet away from your wood stove.

Electric Space Heaters

- Buy only heaters evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- Check to make sure it has a thermostat control mechanism, and will switch off automatically if the heater falls over.
- Heaters are not dryers or tables; don't dry clothes or store objects on top of your heater.
- Space heaters need space; keep combustibles at least three feet away from each heater.
- Always unplug your electric space heater when not in use.

Kerosene Heaters

- Buy only heaters evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- Never fill your heater with gasoline or camp stove fuel; both flare-up easily.
- Only use crystal clear K-1 kerosene.
- Never overfill any portable heater.
- Use the kerosene heater in a well ventilated room.

Fireplaces

- Fireplaces regularly build up creosote in their chimneys. They need to be cleaned out frequently and chimneys should be inspected for obstructions and cracks to prevent deadly chimney and roof fires.
- Check to make sure the damper is open before starting any fire.
- Never burn trash, paper or green wood in your fireplace. These materials cause heavy creosote buildup and are difficult to control.
- Use a screen heavy enough to stop rolling logs and big enough to cover the entire opening of the fireplace to catch flying sparks.
- Don't wear loose-fitting clothes near any open flame.
- Make sure the fire is completely out before leaving the house or going to bed.
- Store cooled ashes in a tightly sealed metal container outside the home.

Finally, having a working smoke alarm dramatically increases your chances of surviving a fire. And remember to practice a home escape plan frequently with your family.

For more information, please visit the U.S. Fire Administration at -
http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/all_citizens/home_fire_prev/heating/hotspot.shtm
