

## **E.D.I.T.H (Exit Drills In The Home)**

### **Exit Drills**

It is advised that you practice your home fire escape plan at least twice a year. If the smoke alarm sounds in your home, everyone will know what to do to get out and meet at the designated meeting place outside and away from the home. Choose a spot outside of your home, where the firefighters will see you when they show up. Never ever go back into your burning house to rescue people, pets or your favourite toy or possessions. That is what the firefighters are trained and equipped to do. Leave it to the professionals.

### **Be Ready**

Make sure everyone knows the sound a smoke alarms makes.

Make sure everyone can hear the smoke alarms from every room in the house.

Children must know how to escape on their own in case an adult cannot provide assistance. If someone is trapped in the home, tell the firefighters as soon as they get to your house.

If there are people with disabilities in your home, make sure they are included in escape planning and practice with them.

Have everyone in your home memorize the fire department's emergency phone number. In Travis County call 911!!!

You should call 911 from a neighbor's phone or a portable phone once you've escaped.

Everyone in your household needs to know how to unlock and open all windows and doors so they can use them in case of an emergency.

If your windows have security bars, equip them with quick-release devices.

If you are unable to get out of the room, keep the door closed. Stuff blankets, towels, or sheets in any cracks or openings around the doors and the heating or air conditioning ducts to help keep the smoke out. If it is clear outside the window, you can open it.

Use a bright cloth or flashlight to signal where you are. If there is a phone, call the fire department and tell them where you are.

Keep stairways and exits clear and free from clutter.

Make sure your street number is clearly visible from the road even at night.

## Your Plan

Draw a floor plan of your home. Click [here](#) for a sample plan.

Show two ways out of each room. They can be doors and or windows.

Discuss escape routes with everyone in your home.

Agree on an outside meeting place where everyone will gather once they've escaped.

## Tips

If you have to escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your exit.

Feel the door from top to bottom with the back of your hand. If the door is hot, find another way out. If it's cool, open the door slowly. Close it quickly if smoke pours through.

Close doors behind you as you escape to slow the spread of fire and smoke.

If your clothing happens to catch on fire, do not run. You need to remain calm and Stop, Drop, and Roll while covering your face.