

Fire Prevention Week is October 3-9, 2021!

This year's Fire Prevention Week theme is "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety!" During this week, help everyone learn the different sounds the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms make. Knowing what to do when you hear the alarm will keep you and your family safe. When an alarm makes noises – a beeping sound or a chirping sound – you must take action!

Monday, October 4: "Seconds Save Lives" What is a family escape plan, and why is it so important?

The Fire Department has some great resources to create your escape plan. Use their "The Great Escape" activity sheet to plan your escape today!

Link: [2016 Fire Escape Plan Incentives' \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire/prevention/2016-fire-escape-plan-incentives)

Tuesday, October 5th: "Do you Know the Difference?" Learn about smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Smoke Alarms: A smoke alarm will let you know if there is a fire in your home. If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside the home right away. Call 9-1-1 or the fire department from outside.

Carbon Monoxide: Carbon monoxide is a gas you cannot see, taste, or smell. A carbon monoxide alarm will let you know if high levels of the gas are in your home.

Wednesday, October 6th: "Focus on Smoke Alarms"

1. A smoke alarm will let you know there is a fire in your home.
2. You need a smoke alarm on each level of your home and in each bedroom or sleeping area.
3. Push the test button at least once a month to make sure the smoke alarm is working.
4. If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside the home right away. Call 9-1-1 or the fire department from outside.

Thursday, October 7th: "About Carbon Monoxide Detectors"

1. A carbon monoxide alarm will let you know if high levels of the gas are in your home.
2. You need a carbon monoxide alarm on each level of your home and in each bedroom or sleeping area.
3. Push the test button each month to make sure the alarm is working.
4. If you hear the carbon monoxide alarm, get outside the home right away. Call for help from outside.

Friday, October 8th: "Fire Safety Storytime"

Check out Fairfax County's My Fire Safety Book: [My Fire Safety Coloring Book \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire/prevention/my-fire-safety-coloring-book)



Northern Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan Survey

Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is partnering with other Northern Virginia jurisdictions to update the 2017 Northern Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Your participation can make our community more resilient to a disaster. This survey will remain open until October 8, 2021. **Survey Link:**
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NorthernVirginiaHazardMitigationSurvey>



October is Cyber Security Awareness Month!

Cyber Security Awareness Month 2021 has officially begun! Join us in spreading cyber security awareness and encourage everyone to own their role in protecting Internet-connected devices. #BeCyberSmart.”

Cyber security starts with YOU and is everyone’s responsibility. There are currently an estimated 5.2 billion internet users – over 65% of the world’s population! This number will only grow, making the need to #BeCyberSmart more important than ever!

“Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart.” This evergreen theme encourages individuals and organizations to own their role in protecting their part of cyber space, stressing personal accountability and the importance of taking proactive steps to enhance cyber security.

Week of October 4th (Week 1): Be Cyber Smart.

Week of October 11th (Week 2): Phight the Phish!

Week of October 18th (Week 3): Explore. Experience. Share.

Week of October 25th (Week 4): Cybersecurity First



Use the hashtag #BeCyberSmart to promote your involvement in raising cyber security awareness.

Cyber Attack Hazard Annex: [Cyber Attack | Emergency \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)

The Great SouthEast ShakeOut Day 2021

You could be anywhere when an earthquake strikes. Do you know what to do? Join the Office of Emergency Management on **Thursday, October 21, 2021, at 10:21 a.m.** and practice what you would do in a real earthquake.

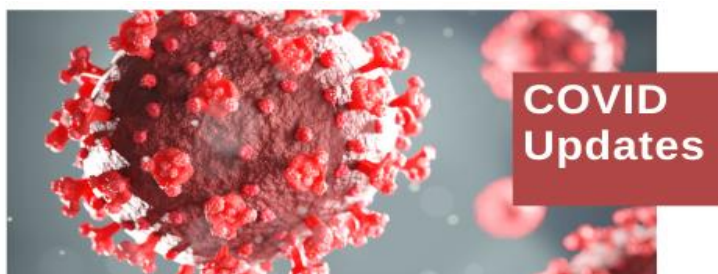
If you are inside a building, move no more than a few steps, and:

- **DROP** to the ground (before the earthquake drops you!),
- **COVER** by getting under a sturdy desk or table, and
- **HOLD ON** to it until the shaking stops.

If you are in bed, cover your head and neck with your hands or a pillow until the shaking stops.

If you are outdoors, find a clear spot away from buildings, trees, streetlights, and power lines, then drop, cover, and hold on until shaking stops.

For more information, on what to do before, during, and after an earthquake, visit the Community Emergency Response Guide (CERG) and even watch our video to see how you can adapt to your situation: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergencymanagement/cerg.



Fairfax County Emergency Blog

Did you know the Fairfax County Emergency Blog has information regularly posted with COVID-19 updates? Check out the recent posts by visiting the Emergency Blog (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/blog).