

## Home Hazard Hunt Checklist

Small hazards in your home should be repaired or removed on a regular basis for everyone's safety. It's even more important that there are no hazards during an emergency.

### Reduce Electrical Hazards

- Repair or replace extension cords and appliance cords that are frayed, cracked or worn.
- Check electric outlets, extension cords and power strips to make sure they are not overloaded.
- Remove electrical cords that run under rugs or carpet or near heat sources.
- Cover any exposed outlets and wiring.
- Check that the proper wattage light bulbs are being used in light fixtures and lamps.
- Repair or replace appliances that overheat, short out, smoke or spark.

### Reduce Chemical Hazards

- Store flammable liquids, such as gasoline, acetone and paint thinner, in approved safety cans, away from your home. Place cans in a well-ventilated area with the lids closed tightly. Secure the containers to prevent spills.
- If flammable materials must be stored in your home, use storage containers that have an inspection label from a testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM).
- Move materials away from heat sources, open flames, gas appliances and children.
- Keep combustible liquids such as kerosene and lighter fluid away from heat sources.
- Store oily waste and polishing rags in covered metal cans.
- Instruct family members not to use gasoline, benzene or other flammable fluids for starting fires and cleaning indoors.
- Follow labeling information for proper use and disposal of household chemicals.

### Reduce Fire Hazards

- Clear out old rags, newspapers, mattresses, old furniture and other combustible materials.
- Move combustible materials away from electrical equipment, gas appliances or flammable materials.
- Clean and repair chimneys, flue pipes, vent connectors and gas vents.
- Keep heaters, candles and other heat sources away from curtains and furniture.
- Place portable heaters on level surfaces, away from high traffic areas. (Purchase portable heaters that are equipped with automatic shut-off switches and avoid the use of extension cords.)
- Remove dried grass cuttings, tree trimmings and weeds from your yard.