



Township of Springwater
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRACTICE YOUR HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN AS PART OF FAMILY DAY

SPRINGWATER TOWNSHIP / February 3, 2010 – Fire Chief Tony Van Dam is urging families in Springwater Township to practice their home fire escape plan as part of Family Day on February 15, 2010.

Last year, 101 people died in fires across the province, a stark reminder that everyone in your household must know exactly what to do if a fire occurs.

“Most fatal fires occur at night when everyone is asleep,” said Chief Van Dam. “That’s why it is so important for everyone to know what to do when the smoke alarms sound. Everyone should know what to do and where to go to get out safely.”

Simple steps for home fire escape planning include:

- Install smoke alarms on every storey and outside sleeping areas. It’s the law. For best protection, install smoke alarms in every bedroom.
- Develop a home fire escape plan and discuss it with the entire family.
- Show everyone two ways out of each room, if possible.
- Check that all exits are unobstructed and easy to use.
- Determine who will be responsible for helping young children, older adults or anyone else that may need assistance.
- Choose a meeting place outside, such as a tree or a lamp post, where everyone can be accounted for.
- If caught in smoke, get low and go under the smoke to the nearest safe exit.
- Call the fire department from outside the home, from a cell phone or neighbor’s home.
- Once out, stay out. Never re-enter a burning building.

You may have only seconds to safely escape your home. Practice your home fire escape plan and make sure everyone can get out quickly.

Springwater is a municipality of approximately 18,000 residents located in the heart of Simcoe County. 2009 celebrates the 15th anniversary of the amalgamated Township of Springwater. The Township is governed by a seven-member council with a complement of 60 full and part-time staff. The **NEW** Township of Springwater Administration Centre is located at 2231 Nursery Road in Midhurst, and amalgamates the Parks and Recreation staff as well as Council Chambers with the rest of the staff.

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