Family and Consumer Sciences News

Here is a great checklist to use while cleaning to make sure that your family will be safe this spring.

**Spring time is a great time to clean, organize and get rid of unnecessary items in your house. It is also a great time to check if your safety plans are in place and your safety equipment is in working order**.

 Test your smoke alarms.

 Check to see if they work.

 Change the battery, if necessary

 Replace your smoke detectors every 10 years.

 Test your carbon monoxide detectors.

 Check to see if they work.

 Change you batteries if necessary.

 Replace light bulbs (outside and inside) – you’ll be taking out the step ladder to test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, use the ladder to change the light bulbs as well.

 Store winter items (clothing, Christmas decorations, etc.) properly.

 Check your house for broken items and discard appropriately.

 Clean out your medicine cabinet and dispose any expired or unused medications properly. Talk to your city or county government trash and recycling service or your local pharmacist for medicine disposal in your area.

 Check your fire extinguisher.

 Make sure safety seals, tamper indicators and maintenance tag are not broken or missing.

Examine for signs physical damage, corrosion, leakage, or a clogged nozzle.

 Check the pressure gauge reading or indicator. It should be in the operable range or position.

 Recycle and replace if necessary.

 Learn more about fire safety planning at nsc.org.

 Plan and practice your family escape plans.

 Review your family emergency plan – a printable family emergency plan is available through ready.gov.

 Check your first aid kit and replace any missing supplies.

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