

## WINDOW SAFETY AWARENESS

Every day you whisper a promise to your child, "I'll always love you and keep you safe." But keeping your home and children safe takes more than promises. It can only be done with safety awareness, planning and preventive action. Fires and falls of all kinds are among the leading causes of injury and death in young children. While some falls occur from windows, it's important to realize that in a fire, a window can save a child's life. That is why windows play a critical role in home safety.



Fire is frightening. All too often, the bodies of young children are found after a fire in places where they tried to hide. Teach your children that they can't hide from fire: They must escape it. Decide on at least two emergency escape routes from your home. Windows provide one of the fastest, easiest alternative ways out of a burning home. Teach children how to safely escape through windows and take time to practice with them.

Every family member should know how to operate the windows used for fire emergencies. Delays in escaping from a fire cost lives and increase

injuries. Often paint, dirt or weathering can seal a window shut. Make sure yours open easily from the inside and are not blocked by furniture or other objects.

Remember that security bars, grilles and grates not only keep intruders out, they can also lock you in. The same holds



true for window guards. Everyone should always be able to get out through a window without using tools, keys, special knowledge or effort. Preventing falls out of windows is as important as learning how to use one in an emergency. Unattended children run the greatest risk of falls and injuries, so the best first step is to watch your children as they play. Nothing can substitute for careful supervision. When youngsters are around, close and lock your windows. If you need ventilation, open only windows they cannot reach. Be sure to keep furniture – or anything children can climb – away from windows. And teach your children not to play near windows. Never depend on insect screens to prevent falls.

Insect screens are designed to provide ventilation. They will not hold a child's weight against them. Hunt has placed window safety stickers on to your second floor windows as a means of reminding everyone on a daily basis that window safety is critical, if you notice these stickers have been removed or are torn/faded please contact your Resident Service Specialist to schedule a time for us to come install new ones.

Only solid information and proper preparations can help you keep the promise of safety you give to your loved ones. For more ways to protect your home and family please contact:

National Fire Protection Association	National Safety Council	This safety message is brought to you by the
Department of Public Education	1121 Spring Lake Drive	National Safety Council and the membership
One Batterymarch Park	Itasca, IL 60143-3201	of the American Architectural Manufacturers
Quincy, MA 02269-9101	www.nsc.org	Association, the National Wood Window and
www.nfpa.org		Door Association, and the Screen
		Manufacturers Association.
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission	Home Safety Council	We at Hunt Military Communities appreciate
4330 East West Highway	1250 Eye Street, NW	your attention to
Bethesda, MD 20814	Suite 1000	this very important
www.cpsc.gov	Washington, DC 20005	safety awareness MILITARY COMMUNITIES
	www.homesafetycouncil.org	message.