



KANSAS INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

Vicki Schmidt, Commissioner

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Fire Prevention: The Kiddo Edition

Topeka, Kan. – From toddlers taking their first steps to excited grandchildren waiting to lick leftover cake batter, the adventurous and playful nature of children that surround us often requires conforming in ways that protect the young and innocent. As a participant in National Fire Prevention Week, Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt would like to highlight several kid-friendly fire prevention efforts Kansans should consider in their efforts to keep their family and property safe.

1. **Out of sight, out of mind** – Keep lighters, matches and other flammable substances in a safe location out of reach from children. Household lighters should include child-proof features.
2. **Go flameless** – Light bulb-illuminated candles are a safe option to consider around kids.
3. **Turn the handles away** – When cooking around children (and pets), never have pot handles hanging near or over the edge of a stove. Keep all handles facing towards the back of the stove.
4. **Enforce the three-foot rule** – Teach children to stay three feet back from things that get hot. Space heaters, active fireplaces, and stoves should be no-go zones for children.
5. **Keep the yard clean** – Keeping your yard clean of dry leaves and pine needles is an important step in building an ember-resistant zone around your property.

“Fireproofing your home and purchasing homeowners or renters insurance are critical steps you can take to protect your family and personal property,” said Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt.

Owning insurance cannot prevent a destructive fire, but it will likely prevent personal financial destruction in the event of a disaster. To learn more about homeowners and renters insurance visit www.insurance.kansas.gov/home-renters-insurance or call the Department at 1-800-432-2484.

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