

Media Release



Monday 13 May 2019

Take essential fire safety precautions as the weather cools

Mayor of Camden, Cr Theresa Fedeli, is urging residents to make sure they take essential fire safety precautions in their homes as winter approaches.

“Every year, Fire and Rescue NSW attends approximately 4,500 residential fires in the state, 30 per cent of which happen in the winter months,” Cr Fedeli said.

“The most common causes of these fires are heaters, electrical appliances and faults and unattended cooking in the kitchen.

“Many people think ‘this would never happen to me’ but as a mother, and now a grandmother, I know it’s easy for things to go wrong. All it takes is for a toy to be left too close to the heater, to get distracted while cooking dinner or to use an electric blanket without checking the wiring for things to go horribly wrong.

“I want to know my family, as well as families all over the Camden area, have taken every possible measure to ensure their safety.”

To stay safe from fires in winter, Fire and Rescue NSW have made a number of recommendations, including:

- Keeping everyone one metre away from the heater;
- Never use wheat bags in bed;
- Avoid the use of external heating equipment inside your homes;
- Be prepared with a plan of escape;
- Never leave cooking in the kitchen unattended;
- Don’t overload powerpoints and powerboards;
- Before going to bed, turn off all electrical appliances at the powerpoint; and
- Clean your clothes dryer’s lint filter before or after each use.

For even more information on fire safety, as well as to learn about what firefighters do every day, residents have the chance to head down to either Camden or Narellan Fire Station on Saturday 18 May, 10am-2pm. The Open Day is a great opportunity to speak to firefighters first-hand about fire safety in the home.

For more information, including details on Fire and Rescue NSW’s Open Day, visit fire.nsw.gov.au

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