



SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Renton Regional Fire Authority

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION

March 2024

Poison Prevention Week

March 19 to March 25 is National Poison Prevention week. This week was developed to raise awareness for poison prevention and safety. In 2022, U.S. poison centers responded to 2,427,974 total poison cases. Of these cases, the leading substance exposure categories include pain relievers, antidepressants, household cleaning substances, cosmetic products, and antihistamines. However, anything can be a poison if it is used in the wrong way, by the wrong person, or in the wrong amount.

Following these tips can help to keep yourself and your loved ones safe against poisons...

- **Keep all medications and potentially poisonous substances in a specific area** that is not able to be accessed by children nor those who will not need the medication.
- **Properly store medications.** Keep medications in their original containers, properly stored and labeled. Never put something that is not food in a food or beverage container such as a soda bottle, tupperware container, cup or glass.
- **Dispose of unused medications.** Properly dispose of any expired, unwanted or unused medications around the home.
- **Know POISON HELPS contact information.** The best way to prevent/help in a poison emergency is to have the Poison control number. Save the poison center phone number in your phone. (1-800-222-1222)



Smoke Alarms Save Lives and Only Take Minutes to Test

Taking proactive steps to help protect yourself and your family from fire is incredibly important. One of the easiest and most effective ways to do so is by having a working smoke alarm in your home.



Having a working smoke alarm in your home is very important to yours and your family's safety and in an emergency situation, can even mean the difference between life and death. It is important to check that your smoke alarm is properly working every year. According to a report by the National Fire Protection Association, the death rate is twice as high in home fires where there is not a working smoke detector present in the home. A smoke detector can not protect you if it is not properly operating. The National Fire Protection Association recommends that you have a working smoke alarm installed outside of all sleeping areas in your home. It is important to have your smoke detectors installed close to the ceiling because smoke rises to the highest point in a room then builds downward. The lower that you have your smoke detectors installed, the longer that it will take for the smoke to reach the sensor and activate the alarm. In a fire every second counts and taking small steps like these can have a big impact.

Maintain Your Smoke Alarm

Smoke alarms are either battery powered or are hardwired into the electrical system of your home. If your smoke alarm is battery powered, the battery needs to be replaced annually. If your smoke alarm is hard wired, it also has a battery backup, which may also be required to be replaced annually. Remembering to change these batteries every year and to maintain the condition of your smoke alarm is an important step that you can take to help keep your family safe. In order to maintain the condition of your alarm, make sure to check the manufacturer's expiration date on the label of the alarm. All smoke alarms have an expiration date and some last as little as five years. When replacing the batteries in your smoke alarm, try to clean the dust away from the slots in the alarm so that smoke can enter the detector freely. Taking these simple steps to test and maintain your smoke alarm can have a huge impact on your safety.

A few minutes could save your life.



Significant Incidents

Significant Incident Monthly Summary: February 2024

- 1,504 Total Incidents (RFA Responses)
- 7 Significant Incidents
- 2 Significant EMS Call
- 5 Significant Fire Calls

Incident Details:

- On February 2, 2024, Renton RFA responded to a moving vehicle accident with injuries in Station 13's area on northbound SR167 near S 180th St. Renton RFA responded with King County Medic One, TriMed, WA State Patrol and 1 aid unit, 2 engines and 1 officer rig for a total of 9 RRFA personnel. Units arrived to find a single occupant vehicle in the left shoulder lane with injuries and one single occupant vehicle on the right shoulder ditch with an injured patient who was ejected from the vehicle. Crews began patient care on both patients. KC Medic One assisted with the patient found in the ditch. TriMed transported one patient to Valley Medical Center and KC Medic One transported the second patient to Harborview Medical Center.
- On February 10, 2024, Renton RFA responded to a residential fire in Station 13's area on 16400 block of 113th Ave SE. Renton RFA responded with Renton Police and 5 engines, 1 aid unit and 2 officer rigs for a total of 19 RRFA personnel. Units arrived at a small one-story house with smoke coming from the front window. Crews completed a search around the building, extinguished the fire, then began ventilation. Firefighters confirmed that one deceased cat was found. The displaced family had a place to stay, so the Red Cross was not requested. The scene was turned over to the fire investigator.
- On February 14, 2024, Renton RFA responded to a residential fire in Station 13's area on the 12500 block of SE 188th Pl. Renton RFA responded with Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority and 3 engines, 1 aid unit and 1 officer rig for a total of 12 RRFA personnel. Units arrived at a two-story house with smoke coming from the eaves. The family had safely evacuated. Crews completed a 360 search around the structure and reported heavy black smoke from the back. The fire was quickly extinguished, and units began ventilation. Primary and secondary searches of the house were completed with nothing found. One unit was assigned to air monitoring and a King County Fire Investigator was notified.
- On February 15, 2024, Renton RFA responded to a residential fire in Station 12's area on the 700 block of Redmond Ave NE. Renton RFA responded with 3 engines and 2 officer rigs for a total of 11 RRFA personnel. Units arrived on scene at a small one-story house with heavy smoke coming from the detached garage in the back. Firefighters completed a search then began their fire attack. One crew remained on scene to assist the fire investigator then rechecked the fire area to ensure there were no hot spots.
- On February 18, 2024, Renton RFA responded to a residential fire in Station 17's area on the 13500 block of SE 148th St. Renton RFA responded with Puget Sound Regional Fire and 4 engines, 1 aid unit and 2 officer rigs for a total of 16 RRFA personnel. Crews were alerted to a fire on the second floor that spread to the attic caused by a torch during repair work. The homeowner used a fire extinguisher then evacuated. Units quickly extinguished the fire, began ventilation, and performed patient care for minor smoke inhalation. A search for any fire extension was completed; fire was contained to the area of origin. The home was released to the homeowner.
- On February 27, 2024, Renton RFA responded to a building fire in Station 11's area on the 400 block of Williams Ave S. Renton RFA responded with King County Fire District #20, King County Medic One and 4 engines and 2 officer rigs for a total of 14 RRFA personnel. Units arrived at a two-story structure with fire on the exterior spreading inside. Units completed a 360 search then upgraded to a working fire incident. Firefighters began their fire attack then checked for any fire extension on both floors. The second floor had heavy smoke, but no fire extension. KC Medic One set up for possible patient care and rehab. No injuries were reported, and all units cleared through rehab before returning to service. The fire investigator arrived on scene to conduct their investigation and the property was turned over to the owners.
- On February 27, 2024, Renton RFA responded to a shooting incident in Station 15's area on 1500 Houser Way S in a homeless encampment near the Cedar River Dog Park. Renton RFA responded with Renton Police, King County Medic One and TriMed and 3 engines and 1 officer rig for a total of 10 RRFA personnel. It was reported that one person shot two individuals in a tent. When Renton PD gave the all-clear, fire units responded to the trail area. Police brought the two injured patients to Medic One units and all crews assisted with patient care. TriMed transported one patient to Harborview Medical Center. The second patient was transported to HMC by KC Medic One, along with one firefighter. Renton PD remained on scene to investigate.