



**PUGET SOUND
REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY**
INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED FIRE AGENCY
Matthew Morris Fire Chief

*Professionally and
compassionately helping people*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

As Fire Prevention Week™ approaches, Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority reminds residents:

Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!™

10/07/2019 – The Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®)—the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years—to promote this year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign, “Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!” The campaign works to educate everyone about the small but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

NFPA statistics show that in 2017 U.S. fire departments responded to 357,000 home structure fires. These fires caused 2,630 fire deaths and 10,600 fire injuries. On average, seven people died in a fire in a home per day during 2012 to 2016.

“These numbers show that home fires continue to pose a significant threat to safety,” said Lorraine Carli, NFPA’s vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. “In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Escape planning and practice can help you make the most of the time you have, giving everyone enough time to get out.

While NFPA and the Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority are focusing on home fires, these messages apply to virtually any location.

“Situational awareness is a skill people need to use wherever they go,” said Don Maher, Public Education Specialist. “No matter where you are, look for available exits. If the alarm system sounds, take it seriously and exit the building immediately.”

Throughout the month of October, the Public Education department will be visiting many classrooms in the local schools to help spread the word on fire safety.

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in your area, please contact the Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority at www.pugetsoundfire.org. Or, by calling the Public Education Department at 253-856-4480. For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and home escape planning, visit www.fpw.org.

MEDIA CONTACT: Captain Joe Root, PIO
24611 116th Avenue SE, Kent, Washington 98030
Desk 253.856.4481 - Cell 253.569.8809