

Emergency Preparedness

City of Schenectady

Mayor Gary McCarthy

Fire Chief Michael Della Rocco

Be Prepared!

- The better prepared we are, the better able to assist ourselves, our families, and friends.
- What kinds of emergencies can we expect?
- How can we be ready to deal with such emergencies?
- Remember the five 'P's
- What if an emergency were to happen to you today?
- Are you ready for the unexpected?

What Could Happen?

- Fire
- Emergency Medical
- Hazardous Materials
- Water/Flooding
- Police Emergency
- Weather
- Whatever it is,
it can happen here!



Natural Disaster Potential in New York State:

- Wide Range of Geography Types
- Hurricane
- Tornado
- Earthquake
- Ice Storms
- Snow Storms
- Flooding



How much of this is true for Schenectady?



August/September 2011



November, 2009



May 28, 2012



City of Schenectady, December 2008

24 Hours a Day, Every Day

- No one wakes up and says,
 - Today I'm going to have an accident.
 - Today I'm going to have a heart attack.
 - Today I'm going to have a fire.

But these things happen in Schenectady,
every day, to people just like you and me.



Fire Safety:

- Make sure your Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors operate properly.
- Have two ways out of every room.
- Practice home fire drills.
- Have a prearranged meeting place outside.
- Call 911.
- Don't reenter a burning structure.
- Get out. Stay out.



Fire Safety Basics:



- **Don't leave a room with a candle burning.**
- **Don't leave children unattended.**
- **Don't leave home with the clothes dryer going.**
- **Don't leave the kitchen with the stove or oven on.**
- **A fire grows twice in size every minute.**
- **Think fire safety every day!**

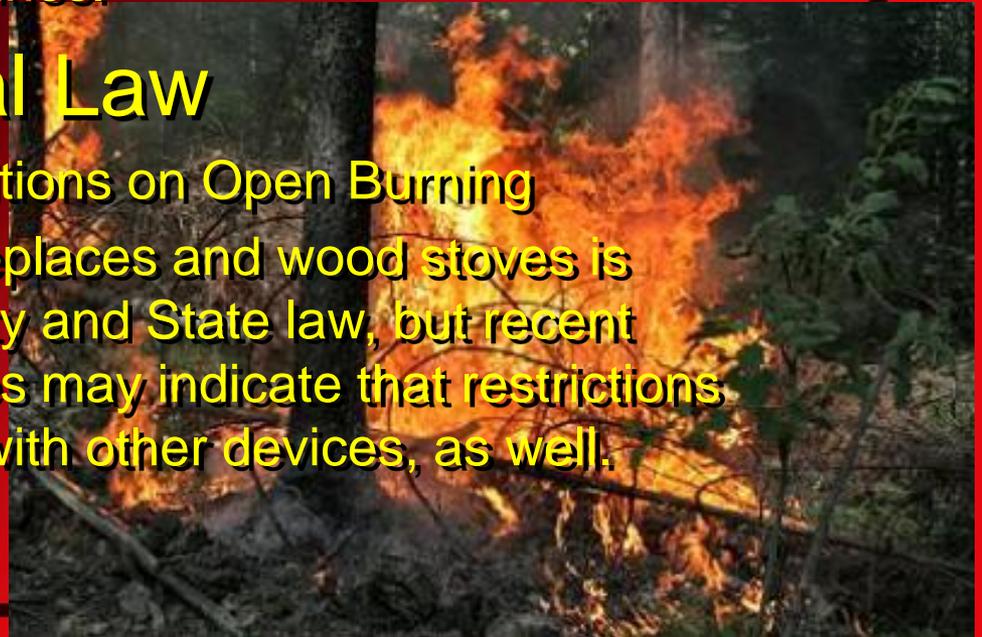
Fire Safety:

- Have your chimney cleaned at least once a year.
- Don't leave fireplaces or wood stoves unattended.
- Have your heating appliances checked every year.
- Keep combustibles away from furnaces, boilers, and heaters.
- Mutual responsibility for Smoke Detectors in rental property:
 - Fines are shared by landlords and tenants.
- Smoke Detectors Save Lives.



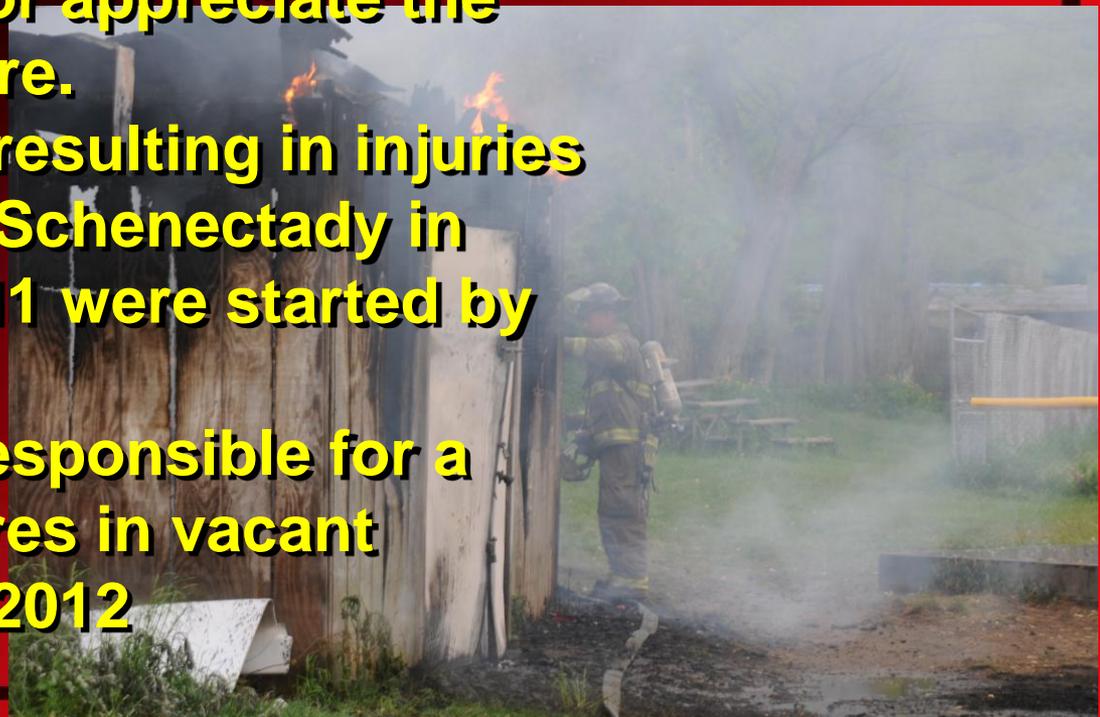
Open Burning

- Illegal per City Code
 - Schenectady Code, Article II, Miscellaneous Provisions, Section 156-7.1
 - “Any material which would produce noxious odors” is prohibited, and subject to fines.
- NYS Environmental Law
 - DEC Section 211 – Prohibitions on Open Burning
 - Burning wood in indoor fireplaces and wood stoves is currently allowed under City and State law, but recent decisions on wood furnaces may indicate that restrictions might be coming our way with other devices, as well.



Juvenile Firesetters

- A local, state, and national problem.
- Unsupervised children with ready access to matches and lighters.
- Failure of children and adults to understand or appreciate the dangers of fire.
- Most major fires resulting in injuries or deaths in Schenectady in 2010 and 2011 were started by juveniles.
- Juveniles were responsible for a number of fires in vacant buildings in 2012



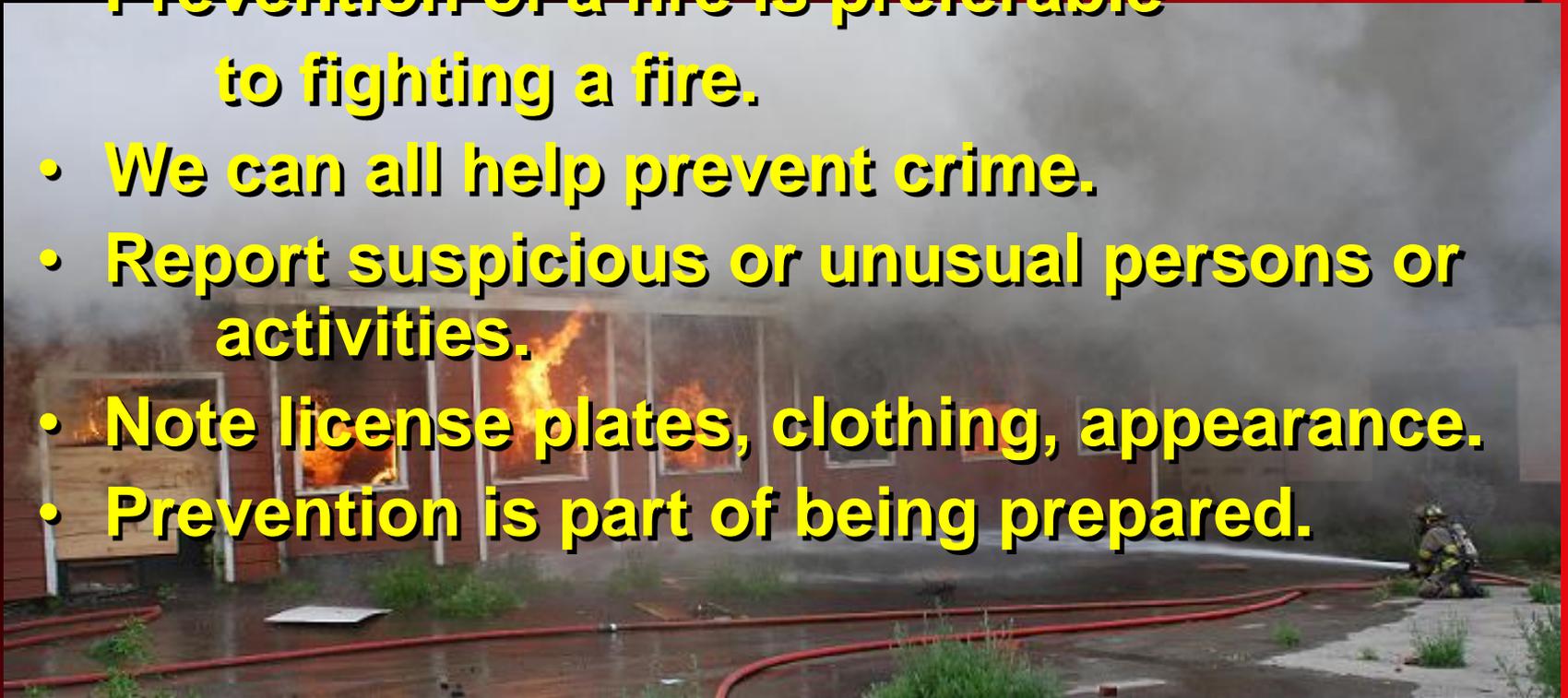
Juvenile Firesetters

- Unsupervised
- Access to matches and/or lighters
- A danger for everyone
- Everyone's problem



If you see something, say something.

- Be vigilant, and be observant.
- Prevention of a fire is preferable to fighting a fire.
- We can all help prevent crime.
- Report suspicious or unusual persons or activities.
- Note license plates, clothing, appearance.
- Prevention is part of being prepared.



Emergency Medical Services

- Many people today do not have a primary care physician.
- Almost everyone has a cell phone.
- 911 Dispatchers will triage your call and send help immediately.
- 911ai
- Vial of Life
- Fire Department Paramedics arrive at your door within about three minutes.
- Your firefighters save lives every day.



Do you know the number for 911?

Cardiac (Heart Attack)

Vehicle Accidents

Stroke (Brain Attack)

Orthopedic

Poisoning

Anaphylaxis (Allergic Reaction)

Falls

Call immediately!



How Can We Be Better Prepared for Disasters?

- Get a kit.
- Make a plan
- Be informed



Get a Kit:

- First aid kit
- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries. (Don't use candles!)
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger



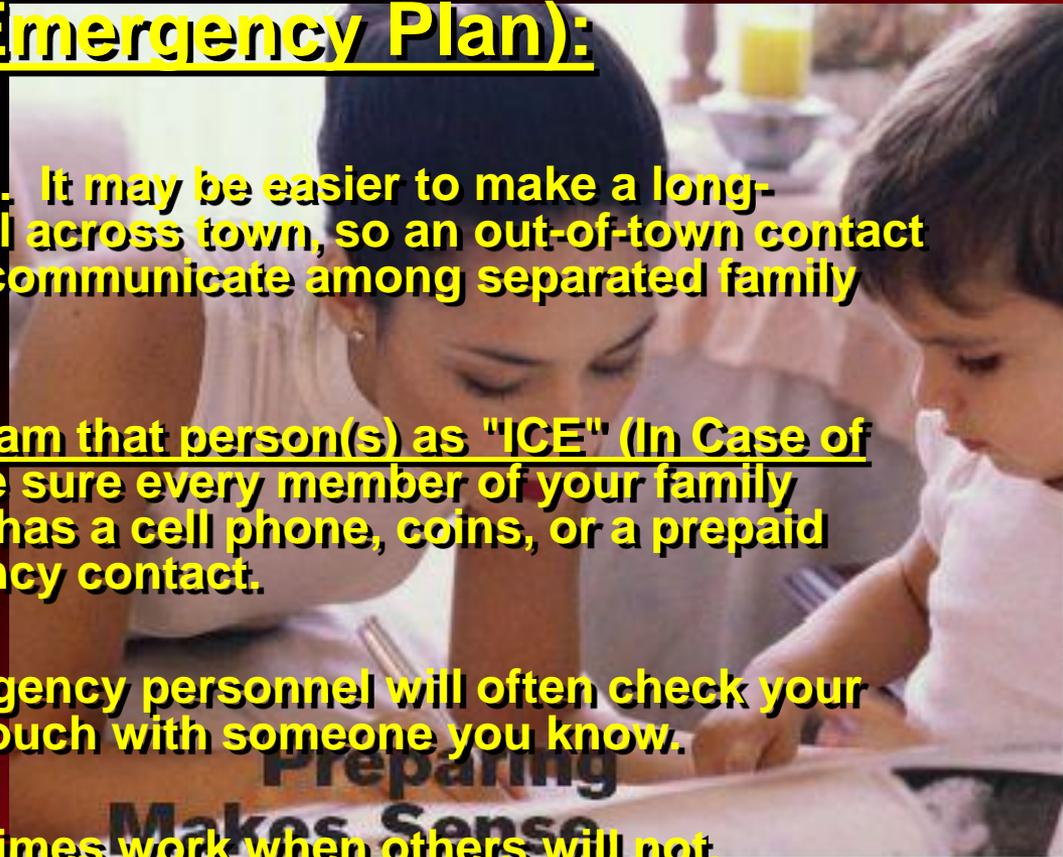
Additional Items to Consider Adding to an Emergency Supply Kit:

- Prescription medications and spare glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Cash or traveler's checks and change (ATM's may not work)
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container.
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from: www.ready.gov.
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.



Make a Plan (Family Emergency Plan):

- Identify an out-of town contact. It may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town, so an out-of-town contact may be in a better position to communicate among separated family members.
- If you have a cell phone, program that person(s) as "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) in your phone. Be sure every member of your family knows the phone number and has a cell phone, coins, or a prepaid phone card to call the emergency contact.
- If you are in an accident, emergency personnel will often check your ICE listings in order to get in touch with someone you know.
- A hard-wired phone will sometimes work when others will not.
- Use text messaging (also known as **SMS** or **Short Message Service**).
- Subscribe to alert services. Many communities now have systems that will send instant text alerts or e-mails to let you know about bad weather, road closings, local emergencies, etc.



Preparing
Makes Sense
Get Ready



Homeland
Security

www.ready.gov

Be Informed:

- Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected are the same for both a natural or man-made emergency.
- However, there are important differences among potential emergencies that will impact the decisions you make and the actions you take.
- Learn more about the potential emergencies that could happen where you live and the appropriate way to respond to them.
- In addition, learn about the emergency plans that have been established in your area by your state and local government.
- For Americans, preparedness must now account for man-made disasters as well as natural ones.
- Knowing what to do during an emergency is an important part of being prepared and may make all the difference when seconds count.



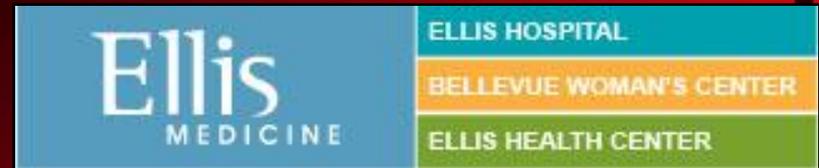
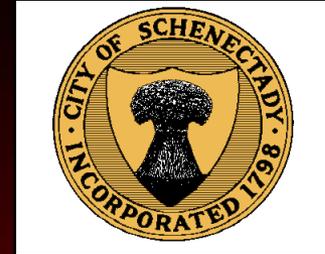
* First Aid Kits *

Assemble a first aid kit for your home and one for each car (for example):

- (20) adhesive bandages, various sizes
- (1) 5" x 9" sterile dressing
- (1) conforming roller gauze bandage
- (2) triangular bandages
- (2) 3 x 3 sterile gauze pads
- (2) 4 x 4 sterile gauze pads
- (1) roll 3" cohesive bandage
- (2) germicidal hand wipes or waterless alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- (6) antiseptic wipes
- (2) pair large medical grade non-latex gloves
- Adhesive tape, 2" width
- Anti-bacterial ointment
- Cold pack
- Scissors (small, personal)
- Tweezers
- CPR breathing barrier, such as a face shield
- First Aid Manual



City of Schenectady 911ai



CITY OF SCHENECTADY
911
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

What is 911ai ?

- 911ai means additional information.
- 911ai allows you to enter personal "additional information" that will be provided to emergency personnel when you have an emergency and 911 is called.
- Everyone can benefit from having 911ai.com.
 - When you call **911**, trained personnel will take the call and send emergency responders to the caller's location in a police, fire, or medical emergency.
 - Additional Information (ai) is immediately available to 911 communications personnel.
 - Individuals select the essential information for 911ai, based on individual needs.

- The additional information that **911ai.com** provides could give details to 911 emergency personnel that may not be able to be conveyed during an actual emergency.
- 911ai.com is a subscription service, free to Schenectady residents.
- The signup process is easy and only takes a few minutes.

<http://www.911ai.com/>



911ai Benefits:



- Identifies the location source of 911 calls with pinpoint accuracy.
- Instant notification of a 911 call being made from a phone number listed in your account.
- Assists emergency personnel by providing current, accurate safety information.

911ai Benefits:

- Automatically provides emergency personnel with contact names and phone numbers.
- 24 x 7 Availability.
- Free to Schenectady residents.

<http://www.911ai.com/>



Be Prepared!

- Remember:
Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance!
- Become your own home safety expert.
- Take Responsibility.
- Learn first aid and CPR
- Think Safety Every Day!
- In an emergency, Call 911!

Thank You.

Questions?

Helpful Resources:

- http://www.redcross.org/www-files/Documents/pdf/Preparedness/ARC_CLX_Brochure.pdf
- http://www.dhs.gov/xcitizens/editorial_0711.shtm
- <http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/emergency/>
- <http://emergencypreparedness.cce.cornell.edu/Pages/default.aspx>
- http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/disaster_prevention.shtml

