

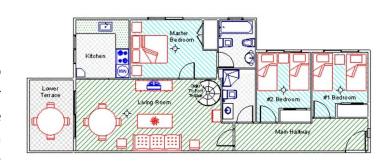
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department



APARTMENT FIRE SAFETY

Apartment fires have prompted Americans to rethink fire safety. A key to fire safety for those living in apartment structures is to create and practice fire escape plans and prevention behaviors. Be alert for fire hazards that put



you, your family and your neighbors in danger. Examine all to see if emergency exits work properly, check to see if fire extinguishers are in proper working condition and have been inspected and fire escapes clear to pass through. These are the types of things you should be aware of. Many apartment tenants fail to obtain renter's insurance. This is a necessity that you must have, because most property owner's insurance policies do not cover the tenant's personal lost.

If any of these unsafe conditions are found in your apartment, contact your rental office at once. Residents should also report if they have rodents and roaches.

The following is a list of items to look for to ensure the safety of your apartment's environment:

Exterior Items

Broken doors or broken glass in doors

Missing or broken hand rails

Cracked Steps

Non-working Fire alarm & security systems
Improperly covered and secured generators
Accumulation of trash/rubbish on premises
Exposed wiring of any type
Non-working fire extinguishers
Inoperable fuses and circuit breakers

Non-working exits signs and emergency lights

Carbon Monoxide or leaking gases

Interior Items

Inoperable smoke detectors

Inoperable heating/air condition units

Inoperable exhaust fans

Doors/windows off track

Missing/broken doors and knobs

Missing receptacle/light switch covers

Cracked/missing floor tiles

Improper use of space heaters

Improper use of electric blankets/pads

Faulty electronics device

Matches/lighters out of child's reach