

## Skip navigation

- **Insurance**

### Accident and Health



- **Short Term Travel**
- **Volunteer Labor**
- **Activities Accident Insurance (US ONLY)**
- **Recreational Sports (US ONLY)**
- **Task Force (US ONLY)**
- **Pathfinders (Non-US ONLY)**
- **Accident and Health Forms**

### Property Insurance



- **Property**
- **Equipment Breakdown**
- **Claim Forms**
- **Prevention Resources**

### Liability



- **General Liability Insurance**
- **Commercial Auto Insurance**
- **Cyber Liability**
- **File a Claim**

### Claim Forms



## **Claim FAQ**



- **Employee Benefits**

## **Healthcare Benefits**



- **Healthcare Plan Information**
- **Healthcare Plan Documents/Forms**
- **Additional Products**
- **Federal Healthcare - Enrollment**

## **Life & Disability**



- **Life & Disability Benefits**
- **Life & Disability Forms**
- **Evidence of Insurability Forms**

## **Healthcare Reform**



- **Prevention Resources**

## Safety Officer Central



- **The Safety Officer**
- **Evaluation**
- **Emergency Planning**
- **Maintenance**
- **Training**

## Safety Topics



- **Church**
- **School**
- **Camp**
- **Administration, Staff and Finance**
- **Buildings and Property**
- **Child and Youth Activities**
  - **Child Protection**
  - **Pathfinder Safety**
- **Drivers and Transportation**
- **Travel and Mission Trips**
- **Disasters, Emergency and Health**

## Solutions



## Webinars



- **Safety Webinars**

- **Administrator Webinars**

### **Risk Control**



- **Risk Control Plan**
- **Risk Control Forms**

### **Safety Sabbath**



### **NAD Initiatives 2017**

NOR  
20



- **About Us**

**Careers**



**Contact Us**



## News & Events



## Our Companies



## Leadership: Officers



## Leadership: Board



## History



## ARMCares



- [Faces of ARM](#)
- [How Do You Care?](#)
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- [News & Events](#)
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**Menu**

[Home](#) › [Prevention Resources](#) › [Solutions](#) › [October 2013](#)

10/20/2013

# Fire Protection - Safety at Your Church, School or Business

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Posted by **Carina Franca**



# Safety at Your Church, School or Business



## Safety at Your Church, School or Business

**Loss due to fire accounted for 33 percent of claims costs in the North American Division during the last four years. Taking preventative steps can help you prevent loss to your church-owned property.**

### *Electrical Hazards*

**Fires caused by faulty electrical systems can be extremely costly – claims filed under that category accounted for 28 percent of total fire loss in North America during 2008 to late 2012.**

**A few of the most common hazards are unsafe wiring, overloaded circuits, and inappropriate electrical devices. Extension cords are to be used on a temporary basis only; all cords should be grounded and UL approved. Multi-outlet power strips should never be connected in a series. Decorative lighting and spotlights should not be used for longer than 90 days, unless properly installed and wired directly into the building's electrical system.**

### *Open Access to Exits*

**All exit doors should have appropriate exit signs and fully operational panic hardware. Fires give you only moments to safely exit the building.**



## Open Hallways

Make sure your hallways remain totally clear, never keep tables, chairs or boxes in passageways. This includes hanging objects on the wall that protrude into the hall. In the event of a fire, everyone will need to exit the building quickly, without tripping, falling or bumping into objects.



## Proper Housekeeping

- Keep storage rooms clean and organized with more than 24 inches of clearance between the ceiling and the highest items.
- Keep walls free of combustible materials or artwork.
- Require the use of non-combustible paper products.
- Store flammable liquids in fireproof cabinets.
- Keep three-foot minimum clearance in front of all electrical panels and HVAC equipment.



## No Overcrowding

Never exceed the recommended capacity for a room or sanctuary.



## No Open Flames

Establish a zero-tolerance policy to candles or any open flames on your premises.

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## Fire is **FAST**

Fire is life threatening in two minutes, and in five minutes, an entire building can be engulfed in flames.

## Fire is **DARK**

Fire produces gases that disorient you and make you drowsy. Asphyxiation is the leading cause of fire deaths. Instead of being awakened by a fire, you may fall into a deeper sleep.

## Fire is **HOT**

Heat and smoke can be more dangerous than the flames. Inhaling the super heated air can burn your lungs.

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12, 12 days of holiday safety, 15-passenger, 15-passenger vans, 3 skills every youth leader should master, a careful collection, abuse, accident, accidents, action, active shooter, active shooter drill, Adventist, adventure, after safety sabbath, after school care, after the drill, aid, air, alerts, anger, areas, articles, assessing the risks in your ministry, assessment, assistance, attachments, auto, automatic, awareness, back to school, backing, baptism, baptism service, baptismal, Baptismal service, baptismal tank, baptistery, baptistry, basic first aid, be informed, be prepared, bicycle, bicycle safety, blame, blizzards, boiler, boiler room, booth safety, braking, breach, breakdown, breakups, budgets, build a kit, build right, building, building codes, building site, burden, burn, buses, C.S. Lewis, camp meeting, campfire, camping, campmeeting, campout, campus, campus violence, campus", car, carrying weights, cars, causes, caution, ceremony, certificate, chaperone, checks, chemicals, child, child abuse, child on child, child sex abuse, child-on-child, children, Christmas, **Church**, Church board, church governance, church inspection, church leadership, church livestreaming, church media, church safety, claims, claims reporting, Classic, cleaning products, cold, cold snaps, collection, collisions, committee, community, community service, community service outing, concussions, conference, construction, control, controls, copyright, CPR, cracks, custody, cyber, cyber liability, cyber security, cybersecurity, cybersecurity system, cyclist, dangerous, data, days, death, dental, depression, destination, disaster, distracted driving, divorce, DIY, domestic, domestic issues, donation, donation drive, drill, drills, driver, driver safety, drivers, driving, driving during winter, drop off, dryer hose, earthquake, education, educational, educational institution, electrical, Electrical Fires, electronics, emails, embezzlement, emergencies, emergency, emergency drill, emergency plan, emergency planning, emergency response, emergency storm, employee, employee training, environment, equipment, evacuation, event, events, exhibit hall, exhibit safety, expo, facility, fall, fall risks, falls, favorite, feed, field trip, filming, financial, fire, fire drill, Fire Prevention, Fire Prevention Week, fires, firewall, first aid, flammable, food drive, forgiveness, foundation, fraud, freshener, furnace, games", GC, GC Session, GCSA15, grief, grieving, groundwork, gutters, hack, hackers, hacking, handling, hazardous, hazards, healing, health, health events, health expo, health fairs, health screenings, heat, help, History, holiday, holiday safety, homeless, homeless", housekeeping, hoverboard, how to, how to check for risks, how to do a fire drill, how to prepare for tornados, how to prevent child abuse, how to prevent electrical fire, how to prevent wildfires, how to recognize child abuse, how to stay safe on a

mission trip, how to stop fires, human firewall, hurricane, hurricane matthew, hurricane preparation, Hurricane Wilma, hurt, ice, icy, identification, immersion, incident, information, injury, inspection, inspection”, insurance, internal, internet, invest, IT, key areas to safeguard your ministry event, keys, land, laptops, leaks, liability, lifting weights, light bulbs, litigation, livestream, livestreaming, loss, Lot, Lowell Cooper, lowering weights, maintenance, make a plan, Management, measures, media, medical, medical events, mental health, ministry, ministry event, mission, mission trip, missionary, myths, NAD initiatives, new building, ocean, on, organization, outing, parent, parents, Parking, passenger, passenger vans, passengers, password, passwords, pastors, permissions, perpetrator, personal safety, pick up, pipes, plan, planning, planning for maintenance, plugin, plumbing, poison, predator, preparation, prepare, preparedness, preparing for emergencies, preparing for hurricane matthew, prevent, **prevention**, preventive, privacy policy, proactive, program, protect, protection, puddles, rain, recording, repair, repairs, reporting a claim, rescue, resources, Rex Allen, riscos, **Risk**, risk management, risk management committee, risks, river, road, roads, roads”, roofs, sabbath, sabbath”, safe environment, Safe Travel, safe winter, **safety**, safety committee, safety sabbath, safety tips, San Antonio, school, school sports, schools, screenings, seasonal, seasonal maintenance, secure, Security, security measures, sensitive, separated, service, Session, severe, Severe Weather, sex abuse, sexual, sexual abuse, shooter, site, site and building maintenance, skidding, slippery, slippery roads, slips, smartphone, smartphones, smoke alarms, snow, social, social event, social media, socials, Solutions, Solutions Classic, special, sports, sports games, stop child abuse, storage, storing hazardous materials, storm, storm prep, students, summer, summer camp, supervision, supervision guidelines, supervisors, surfaces, survey, system, tablets, taking the fear out of reporting a claim, target, teacher, team, Thanksgiving, the, the grieving process, thieves, top, top causes, top solutions, tornado, tornado warning, tomado watch, tragedy, train, training, transportation, travel, travel insurance, traveling, trip, trips, truck, twelve, underwater, up, upgrade, vacation, van, van”, vans, vehicle, vehicle safety, vehicles, vents, victim, violence, virus, vision, volunteer, vote, walls, waste, water, weather, wellness, wet flooring, what to do before your next health fair, what to drive instead of a 15-passenger van, wi-fi, wildfire, wildfires, winter, winter risks, winter roads, winterize your building, work, workplace, workplace safety, workplace violence

## **Insurance**

### **File a Claim**

### **Employee Benefits**

### **Prevention Resources**

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