





# NORTHERN WAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

<b>TITLE:</b> Fire Safety House	<b>SECTION/TOPIC:</b> OPERATIONS
<b>NUMBER:</b> 300-16	<b>ISSUE DATE:</b> 3/25/20
<b>REVISION DATES:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY:</b>  Gary Vickerson <hr/> <b>PRESIDENT – BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>  Tim Pope <hr/> <b>FIRE CHIEF</b>

### I. PURPOSE

- A. The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure is to establish guidelines for setting up, operating and caring for the Northern Wake Fire Department’s inflatable fire safety house.
- B. The inflatable fire safety house will be utilized at Northern Wake Fire Department risk reduction events as approved by the Division Chief of Risk Reduction or his/her designee.

### II. SCOPE

- A. This Standard Operating Procedure applies to all members of the Northern Wake Fire Department.

### III. PROCEDURE

- A. The inflatable fire safety house will only be utilized at Risk Reduction events held within the Northern Wake Fire District.
- B. Exceptions must be approved by the Division Chief of Risk Reduction and the event must include personnel representing the Northern Wake Fire Department.
- C. The inflatable fire safety house will not be loaned to another agency.

### IV. SETTING UP THE INFLATABLE FIRE SAFETY HOUSE

- A. When setting up the inflatable fire safety house:

1. Do not set the inflatable up in windy conditions
  2. Check for overhead obstructions (Too tall for bay at Station #4)
  3. Maintain sufficient distance from bay heaters
  4. Clean the area where the inflatable will be sitting.
  5. Place a tarp down where the inflatable will be sitting.
  6. Utilize sandbags to hold each corner of the inflatable
  7. Unroll the inflatable
  8. Unfold the inflatable
  9. Attach the blower to the inflatable
  10. Ensure all inflation/deflation zippers are closed
  11. Plug up blower and turn blower on
  12. Attach external banners to the inflatable
- B. While escorting guests through the fire safety house, control the front, back and internal doorways (This will keep children from running through the presentation or simply walking in unnoticed)
- C. Encourage families to proceed through the fire safety house as a group (This allows everyone in the home to learn safety lessons and then they can take these lessons home and practice)

#### V. SAFETY MESSAGING

- A. An introduction should take place at the front entrance of the fire safety house. The introduction should include your name, position, and a brief description of the activity and purpose.
- “Hi, my name is John and I’m a Firefighter at the Northern Wake Fire Department. Today, I will be leading you through our fire safety house. While inside, I will be teaching you and your family how to prevent fires in your home and how to safely evacuate your home if a fire was to occur. I will also be providing you safety tips along our journey, so use your imagination and be thinking about how you can implement these tips once you get back home.”*
- B. Kitchen Safety Discussion Points:
- The kitchen is the #1 place that fires occur in the home.  
 Don’t leave cooking unattended.  
 Remove combustible materials from around the range.  
 Turn handles in and move pots/pans to back burner whenever possible.  
 Grease should be kept to a minimum amount & depth when cooking.  
 If a fire occurs, immediately call 911.  
 The best way to extinguish a grease fire is to turn off the burner & place a lid on the pot/pan.  
 Do not try to carry a burning pot/pan outside.  
 Keep a charged fire extinguisher in the kitchen.*
- C. Common Area Safety Discussion Points:
- The #2 way that fires start at home is from kids playing with matches/lighters.  
 Matches and lighters are tools for adults, not toys for kids.  
 Clean the fireplace regularly and do not place ashes/coals outside in a combustible box.  
 Have chimneys and flue pipes inspected and cleaned annually.*

*Don't place candles near combustible items.  
Don't leave candles or incense unattended.  
Test batteries in smoke alarms monthly.  
Change all smoke alarm batteries when the time changes each year.  
Don't leave computer and phone chargers plugged up and unattended.*

D. Bedroom Area Safety Discussion Points:

*Always sleep with the bedroom door closed.  
Ensure you know two ways out of every room.  
If the fire alarm sounds, roll out of bed and stay low to the floor.  
Check the door for heat with the back of your hand.  
If safe, exit through the main door.  
If not safe, leave the door closed and go out another door or window.  
Don't try to take anything with you.  
Once outside, immediately call 911.  
Go to your predetermined family meeting spot.  
Do not go back into the house.*

**IV. STORING THE INFLATABLE FIRE SAFETY HOUSE**

A. When breaking down the inflatable fire safety house:

1. Ensure that the inflatable is completely dry and clean.
2. Remove external banners from the inflatable.
3. Remove the sandbags.
3. Turn blower off and unplug the blower.
4. Ensure all inflation/deflation zippers are open.
5. Unattach the blower from the inflatable.
6. Allow all air to escape from the inflatable.
7. Fold the inflatable from each side to the center (long-ways).
8. Roll the inflatable up; pushing out any remaining air remove as you go.
9. Place the inflatable and banners back into the storage bag.

B. The inflatable construction material is resistant to mold and heat, but it is NOT impervious.

C. The inflatable must be completely dry before it is stored.

D. If needed, the inflatable may be cleaned with a soft cloth and mild soapy water.

E. All soap residue must be removed, and the inflatable allowed to completely dry before storing.

F. Utility 20 is the current storage area for the inflatable, and it can be picked up and returned to Station 2.