

# PREVENT

# FARM FIRES

Every year, fires cost rural people in the U. S. more than \$225,000,000 or \$16.00 per farm.

About 3,500 persons are burned each year in farm and rural fires.

Besides costing lives and money, fires waste food and building materials difficult to replace.

For your own sake and your country's get rid of your fire hazards NOW!



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
*Agricultural Extension Service*  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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## **FAMILY ORGANIZATION FOR FIRE PROTECTION**

Is your home and family safe from fire? **Carelessness with fire and lack of protection** are the saboteurs that ruin thousands of farm homes and buildings every year. Older members of the family should be fully instructed as to the specific duties they are expected to perform when a fire starts.

1. See that children are removed to safety and kept away from danger.
2. Instruct each member as to what duty he or she is expected to perform in an emergency.
3. Report fire and get assistance. Post a notice on the telephone giving directions for calling the nearest fire department or neighborhood leader.
4. Protect from live wires. Shut off current but see that water supplies are functioning.
5. Have some emergency medical supplies and dressings on hand at all times.

### **TO FIGHT BURNING GREASE, OIL, OR GASOLINE**

**Smother with sand, flour, or soda.**

**Water spreads such fires.**

### **IF CLOTHES CATCH FIRE**

**Wrap a blanket or rug around the person.**

**Keep covering tightly drawn around the neck to protect the face.**

**Roll victim on the ground until flames are out.**

### **FIRST AID FOR BURNS**

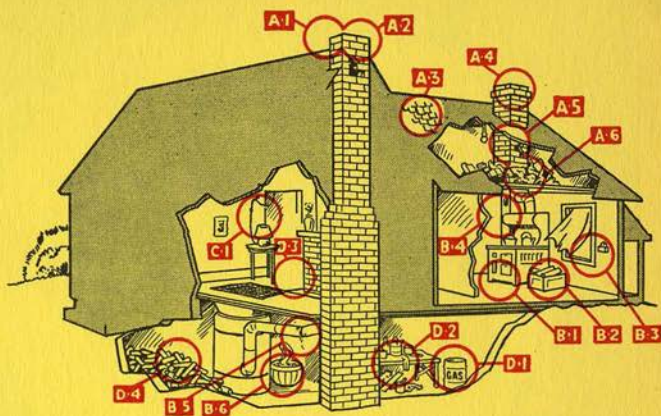
**Tannic acid or strong tea is good.**

**Baking soda or epsom salts in water may be used.**

**For bad burns consult your family doctor immediately.**



# Eliminate Your Fire



## HOUSE FIRE HAZARDS

NO	A. Roof and Attic	YES
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are chimney and pipes high enough above roof?</li> <li>2. Do chimneys and outside stovepipes have spark arresters?</li> <li>3. Is roof fire resistant and do shingles lie flat?</li> <li>4. Is soot cleaned out of chimneys and pipes frequently?</li> <li>5. Are chimneys free from cracks and loose bricks?</li> <li>6. Is attic free of rubbish?</li> </ol>	
NO	B. Heating Equipment and Cook Stoves	YES
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is there a metal or asbestos mat under stove?</li> <li>2. Is the woodbox away from the stove?</li> <li>3. Are matches kept out of reach of children?</li> <li>4. Are unused flue openings closed with tight-fitting metal covers?</li> <li>5. Have sagging, leaky stovepipes or poor joints been repaired or replaced?</li> <li>6. Are ashes kept in metal containers?</li> <li>7. Are stovepipes passing through ceilings or wall protected by ventilators keeping pipe 6 inches from woodwork?</li> <li>8. Is the use of gasoline and kerosene to start fires forbidden?</li> <li>9. Is exposed wood lath protected near heaters or stovepipes?</li> </ol>	



**CHECK FIRE**

## A Check in the Red Means a Hazard Exists

NO

### C. Lights

YES

1. Are all emergency electrical connections, knotted cords, and light wires properly hung (NOT ON NAILS!)?
2. Are all branch light fuses reduced to 15 amperes?
3. Have faulty switches, boxes, and fuses been replaced?
4. Have all oil and gas lamps a wide base, not easily tipped?
5. Are lamps set out securely from wall or hung on strong supports well below ceiling?

NO

### D. Miscellaneous Hazards

YES

1. Are kerosene, gasoline, polish, paint, oil rags, and other inflammable material stored away from house?
2. Is all rubbish cleaned out of basement?
3. Has the fireplace a screen?
4. Is wood piled far enough away from furnace or stove?
5. Is electric iron always disconnected when not in use?
6. Are gas tanks and oil stoves always filled outdoors?

NO

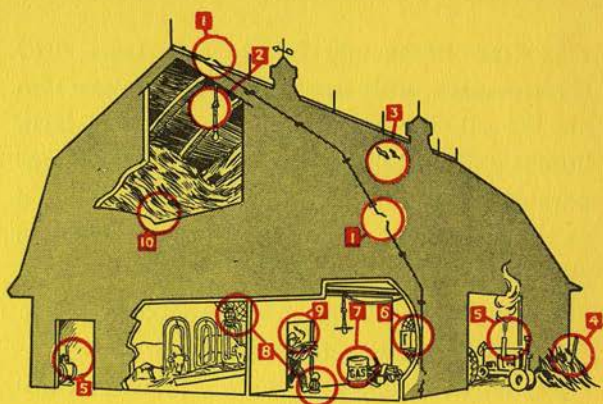
### TIMBER TRACT HAZARDS

YES

1. Are firebreaks provided by plowed furrows between highway and timber?
2. Are slash piles and debris removed?
3. Is constant watch kept for fires and reports made to local fire warden or forest officer?
4. Do you report roadside slash and hazardous debris to local forest officer?
5. Are fence rows and weedy strips of land bordering timber kept clean and safe?
6. Have you discussed your timber hazard problem with the local forest officer?
7. Are plows or disks available for making firebreak and kept in readiness during hazardous seasons?



# ct Invites Disaster



## BARN FIRE HAZARDS

NO

1. Are lightning rods properly installed and cables unbroken?
2. Have makeshift drop cords and poor electrical connections been corrected?
3. Is roof of barn rain proof?
4. Are accumulations of rubbish, loose hay, old sacks, and other debris removed from near the barn?
5. Are engines operating near barn equipped with exhaust pipes, mufflers, and fire extinguishers?
6. Are switch boxes kept a safe distance from lightning rods?
7. Is gasoline kept at least 100 feet from buildings or stored underground?
8. Are lanterns hung securely where they cannot be tipped or kicked over?
9. Is smoking forbidden in and around buildings or sheds?
10. Is hay in loft properly cured?
11. Is hay examined frequently to prevent heating and fire?
12. Are lanterns forbidden in hay mow?

YES

## GRAIN FIELD HAZARDS

NO

1. Are harvesting machines equipped with fire extinguishers?
2. Are fields separated so as to protect against running fires?
3. Are straw- and haystacks placed safe distance apart?
4. Are stacks protected by plowed firebreak?

YES

# BE PREPARED FOR

# Fire!

## Have Equipment Available

1. **Ladder** long enough to reach roof and upstairs window.
2. **Rope ladder** to reach from upstairs bedrooms to ground (for use if stairs and exits are shut off by fire).
3. **Axe and wrecking bar** to permit quick access to attic or partitions in order to reach fire.
4. **Family first aid kit** to treat burns and injuries.
5. **Sufficient emergency water storage** facilities, water tanks, barrels, pails, cistern, or well.
6. **Boxes or pails of sand** and shovel to smother oil or gasoline fires.
7. If water pressure system is available, have faucets well located, hose long enough to reach buildings, and additional emergency hose connections.
8. **Electric pump**, wired and separated from buildings so it cannot be short-circuited by fire cutting off water protection system.
9. **Hand sprayer** or mounted tank sprayer.
10. **Some farm type extinguisher** (bottle or cylinder containing carbon-dioxide gas) which can be thrown into blaze.