

# BUTT OUT SMOKING FIRES



SMOKING IS THE #1 CAUSE OF FATAL HOME FIRES

## WHAT'S THE RISK?

Smoking fires account for **8%** of all home fires.

**One in 10** smoking fires results in an injury or death.

**One in four** home fire fatalities are caused by smoking.

**65%** of smoking fires are caused by "**improper discarding**" of smoking materials.

The average dollar loss per smoking fire is **\$37,000**.

**A Dangerous Mix:  
Alcohol is a factor in many  
smoking-related fires**

## How do I prevent a smoking fire?

- ❖ Encourage smokers to smoke outside.
- ❖ Do not extinguish cigarettes in plant pots, which may contain a mixture of peat moss, shredded wood and bark that can easily ignite.
- ❖ Never smoke in bed.
- ❖ Use large, deep ashtrays that cannot be knocked over.
- ❖ Empty ashes into a metal container – not the garbage can – and put it outside.
- ❖ If people have been smoking in your home, check behind chair and sofa cushions for cigarette butts before going to bed.



Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms on every storey of your home and outside all sleeping areas.

Statistics for Ontario between 2010-2014.  
Provided by the Office of the Fire Marshal  
and Emergency Management