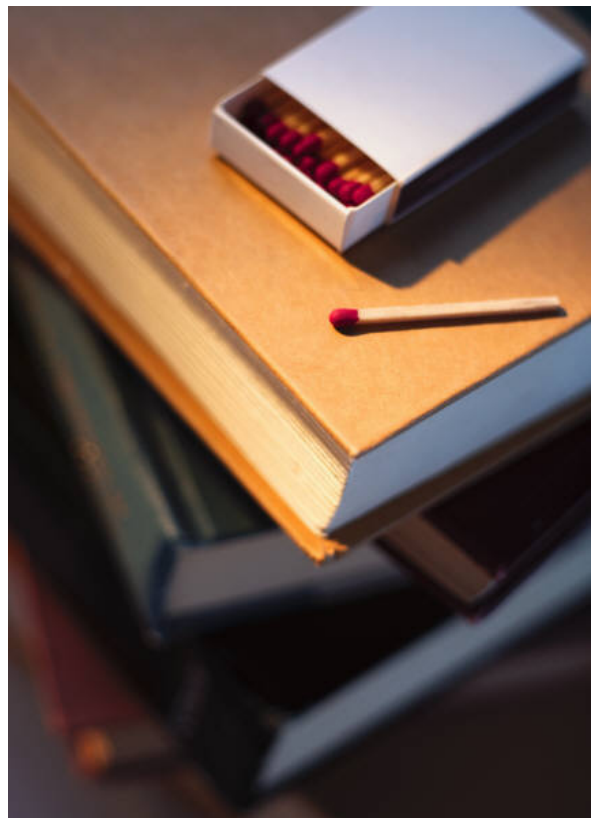
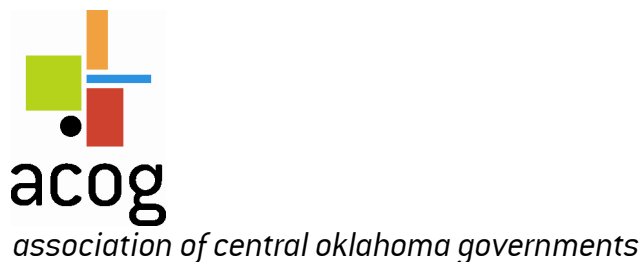


Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Handbook for Schools

Operation FireSAFE
of Central Oklahoma

Juvenile Firesetter
Intervention Program



Contact: Your local fire department

Participating Programs:

Bethany, 3919 N. Rockwell, Bethany, OK 73008. Phone: 789-2218.

Choctaw, P.O. Box 567, Choctaw, OK 73020. Phone: 390-8300. Fax: 390-8607.

Del City, 4501 S.E. 15th Street, Del City, OK 73115. Phone: 671-2891. Fax: 671-3012

Edmond, 925 E. 2nd Street, Edmond, OK 73034. Phone: 359-4312. Fax: 340-4608.

El Reno, 219 W. Hayes Street, El Reno, OK 73036. Phone: 262-2949. Fax: 350-0114.

Guthrie, 209 E. Springer, Guthrie, OK 73044. Phone: 282-4433.

Midwest City, P.O. Box 10570, Midwest City, OK 73140. Phone: 739-1355. Fax: 739-1384.

Moore, 301 N. Broadway, Moore, OK 73160. Phone: 793-5113. Fax: 793-5149.

Mustang, 465 W. State Highway 152, Mustang, OK 73064. Phone: 376-9365.

Newalla, P.O. Box 269, Newalla, OK 74857. Phone: 391-3804. Fax: 660-1197.

Newcastle, 801 N. Carr Drive, Newcastle, OK 73065. Phone: 387-5823. Fax: 387-5478.

Nichols Hills, 6407 Avondale Drive, Nichols Hills, OK 73116. Phone: 843-8526. Fax: 842-8409.

Norman, P.O. Box 557, Norman, OK 73071. Phone: 292-9780. Fax: 292-9785.

Oklahoma Air National Guard, 5401 Flight Line Dr., OKC, OK 73179. Phone: 686-5417.

Oklahoma City, 2300 General Pershing Blvd., OKC, OK 73107. Phone: 297-3321. Fax: 297-3327.

Shawnee, 1401 N. Bryan, Shawnee, OK 74801. Phone: 878-1675. Fax: 878-1748.

Spencer, P.O. Box 660, Spencer, OK 73085. Phone: 771-3621.

Tinker Air Force Base, 3680 "A" Avenue, TAFB, OK 73145. Phone: 734-3981. Fax: 734-7163.

The Village, 2201 W. Britton, Village, OK 73120. Phone: 751-2122. Fax: 748-7352.

Warr Acres, 5930 N.W. 49th Street, Warr Acres, OK 73122. Phone: 789-5912.

Yukon, 302 S. Fifth Street, Yukon, OK 73099. Phone: 354-2133. Fax: 350-7688.

Jane Sutter

Association of Central Oklahoma Governments

21 E. Main, Suite 100

OKC, OK 73104

405-234-2264

jsutter@acogok.org



The Facts

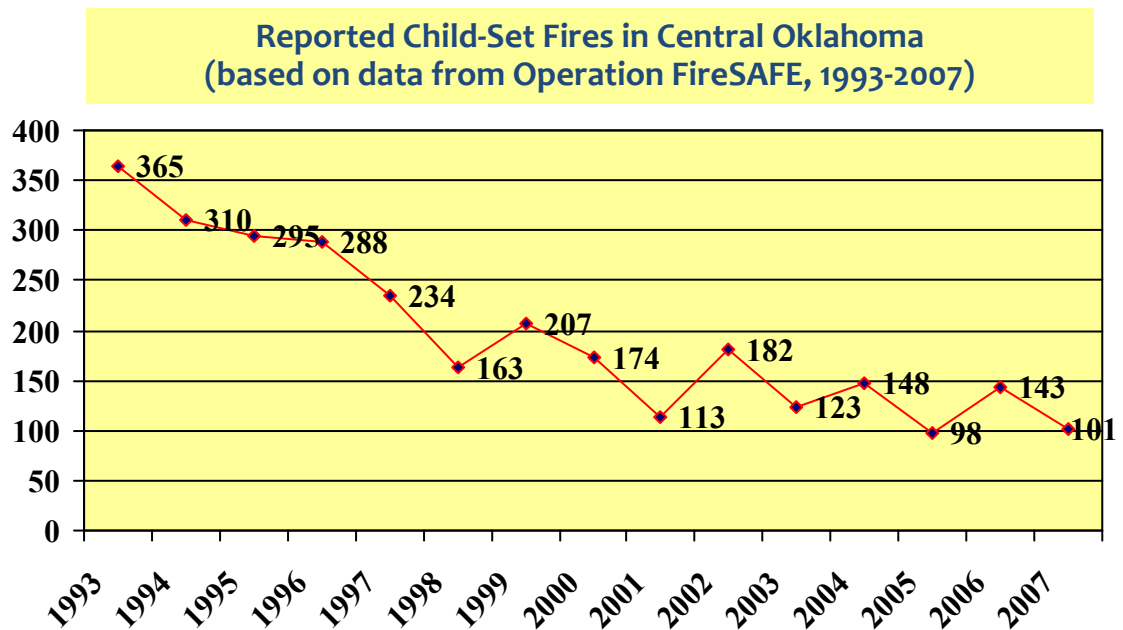
Any fire must be reported as stated in the 2003 International Fire Code, Chapter 4, Section 401.3: “In the event that an unwanted fire occurs on a property (school), the owner or occupant shall immediately report such condition to the fire department.”
Failure to report a fire is a felony.

Building employees and tenants shall implement the appropriate emergency plans and procedures, including calling 9-1-1 and allowing fire department personnel to ensure the fire is extinguished and investigate the source. “No person shall, by verbal or written directive, require any delay in the reporting of a fire to the fire department.”

This means, by law, that any fire, ignition or explosion shall be reported, even if the fire was believed to have been put out by a school employee or student.

From 1993 to 2007, over 3,000 children between the ages of three and 18 were referred to Central Oklahoma’s juvenile firesetting prevention program. The fires they started resulted in millions of dollars of property loss to our community. Statistically, for every reported child set fire, ten other child set fires occur that are never reported. Nationally, more than half of the people killed by fires started by children were under the age of five. Intentional fires are the third leading cause of home fire deaths.

In Oklahoma, a child of age seven or older can be held legally accountable for fires set, however, the goal of the Operation FireSAFE program is to work with the parents and the child to discontinue the firesetting behavior, rather than to punish or prosecute.



Categories of Firesetters

The unsupervised, experimental, impulsive, mischievous or illegal use of fire by children in the U.S. has become a major threat to personal safety and property. The number of childhood deaths or serious injuries due to firesetting by children is alarming.



Curiosity

Firesetting occurs in kids who have a natural curiosity about fire, coupled with limited knowledge of the dangers of fire and an opportunity to obtain matches, lighters and accelerants (aerosol cans) .

Crisis

Acting out of an emotional state, anxious or worried, fires intentionally set, attention seeking, control seeking, or a cry for help.



Thrill Seeker

Usually acts out with peers, sets themselves or friends on fire with accelerants, not looking to damage property, does not recognize serious nature of act, thinks he or she is immortal, mimics acts seen on TV and Internet, usually graduates to this from other accelerant and flammable liquid use. This behavior is becoming epidemic.

Delinquent

Impulsive and irresponsible, school problems or problems with home life, show offs, bad reputation, argumentative or angry, uncooperative, little or no remorse, doesn't recognize serious consequences.



Pathological

Very serious and dangerous, Pyromaniacs," arousal, fascination with fire, magical aspects of fire, hospitalization may be necessary. **Very rare.**

School Fire Information and Mandatory Reporting

As stated in the 2003 International Fire Code, all fires must be reported to the local fire department, regardless of how small.

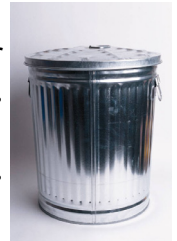
School fires include, but are not limited to those started by:

Using matches and lighters, a heated light bulb or magnifying glass to light combustibles on fire in the school bathroom, hallways, locker-room, classroom or playground.



Lighting firecrackers, smoke bombs or other firework type devices on school property.

Lighting paper or other products on fire in a trashcan, dumpster or near a school campus.



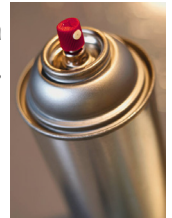
Lighting warming fires at a school bus stop.



Using chemicals to cause a fire in a science classroom or on other school property.

Setting bushes, trees, brush or grass on fire on or near school campus.

Using a spray can such as hairspray, deodorant, cologne or perfume and a lighter to make a torch on or near school property or on a bus.



Flicking lit matches.

Making, possessing and/or activating any kind of bomb-like device on or near a school campus.

What to do if a Child Sets a Fire at School

Step I:

Call 9-1-1 immediately. Do not assume that the fire has been fully extinguished.

Step II:

Contact the child's parent/guardian to notify them of the incident .

Step III:

If your school is in Central Oklahoma, the child may be referred to Operation FireSAFE, a juvenile fire prevention program. A list of fire departments' phone numbers is on the second page. If unsure of who to call, call ACOG, 234-2264.

The FireSAFE program is an effective, non-punitive approach to stopping firesetting behavior in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. Trained firefighters will interview the student and his or her parents then provide fire safety education. This process takes 2-3 hours. If the interview leads to concern that additional counseling is necessary to ensure that the child stops his/her firesetting behavior, the firefighters will refer the student to an area guidance clinic for further counseling.

Referrals to Operation FireSAFE may be made by (1) school officials, (2) parents, (3) juvenile court, or (4) fire investigators. Please have the following information available when you make the call: child's name, parent/guardian name, address and phone numbers, child's age, type of fire, ignition source, location, amount of damage and any injuries. (See referral form next page.)

Operation FireSAFE Referral Form

Case/Incident Report Number: _____ Referral Date: _____

Referral Source's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Referral Source's Address: _____

Date of incident: _____ Incident location: _____

Youth Information:

Name: _____ Sex M F

Age or Date of Birth: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

School currently attending: _____ Grade: _____

Mother/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Father/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____ Cell: _____

Where did the incident/fire happen? _____

Items ignited: _____

Source of ignition: Matches Lighter Other _____

Others involved in incident? No Yes

If available, list others names and phone numbers here:

Contacted Parent (date): _____

Form completed by: _____ Date: _____

Mail or fax to local fire department (addresses and fax numbers on page 2).

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