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## **Safety tips for post-secondary students living in residence or student housing**

**NEWMARKET, ON, August 22, 2016** – As post-secondary students are preparing to move into residence or student housing, Central York Fire Services (CYFS) would like to remind you about some important fire safety information that every parent and student should know.

### **CYFS asks and reminds you to:**

- Have a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas of the home or building – it is the law.
- Install carbon monoxide alarms outside all sleeping areas of a home or building.
- Never remove the batteries to solve nuisance alarms. Only working smoke alarms save lives.
- Test your carbon monoxide and smoke alarms monthly.
- Create a home escape plan by drawing a floor plan of your home/ building and identify all possible emergency exits and escape routes.
- Make sure all designated escape routes are accessible and free of clutter.
- Practice your home escape plan with all occupants of the home/ building regularly so that everyone understands it.
- Check electrical cords for damage. A damaged cord can expose wires and result in potential shock or fire hazard.
- Use multi-outlet power bars that are approved and provide surge protection and a circuit breaker.
- Make sure that electrical cords of any kind are not concealed under carpets or rugs, where they can be easily damaged.
- Always remain in the kitchen when something is cooking. Stove top fires can start in an instant.
- Keep space heaters at least one metre (three feet) away from anything that can burn and turn off the space heater before going to bed or leaving the room.

For more fire safety tips for students living away from home, please visit [www.cyfs.ca](http://www.cyfs.ca)

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