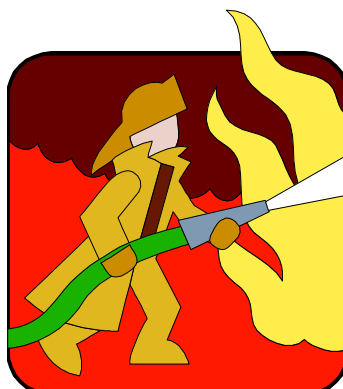


HELP STOP ARSON!



Your Pierce County Fire Prevention Bureau urges you to take the following steps in an effort to reduce “opportunity arsons”. The actions of private citizens and the business community can make the difference between an arson problem and arson prevention.

Private Security Measures:

Secure your home and garage by locking doors, windows, and gate. Make sure home windows, screens, and doors can be opened easily from inside if needed for escape. Trim shrubs away from doors and windows to improve visibility. Leave your exterior lighting on during hours of darkness. Team up with your neighbors to form a neighborhood watch. Be sure to clear carports and other areas of materials that could fuel a fire. Eliminate wastepaper, piles of grass, weeds, litter, or other combustible from around buildings. Plan and practice a home fire drill. Test your smoke detectors to insure they are in working condition. Reassure children of their personal safety.

Business Precautions:

Place locks on commercial dumpsters if possible. Locate commercial dumpsters and other containers at least five feet away from building walls and openings. Use only metal or metal lined containers. Do not allow dumpsters to become over-filled. Do not allow packing materials to accumulate around places of business. Contact the Pierce County Sheriff's Department to report suspicious activities. Provide exterior lighting around structures. Keep combustibles storage away from buildings, preferably in an area secured by fence or other means. Keep storage of large items away from buildings to eliminate hiding places.

ARSON ALARM HOTLINE at 1-800-55-ARSON

Please report any information you believe may be related to arson.

A reward may be provided for information resulting in an arson conviction.

Persons providing information may remain anonymous.