

September 25, 2012 / For Immediate Release

## **AFD invites you to participate in Fire Prevention Week October 7 – 13**

Airdrie, AB – Airdrie Fire Department (AFD) is hosting a series of fire safety events during Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 7 – 13, 2012. This year's theme is *Have 2 Ways Out*.

“On average people have three minutes to escape a house fire,” says Fire Chief Kevin Weinberger. “It’s important that families have a family home escape plan that includes two ways out of every room. It’s even more important that families practice their escape plan to ensure everyone knows how to get out safely and quickly.”

AFD will kick off Fire Prevention Week with the launch of their new preschool fire education program, Play Safe! Be Safe! designed to teach children 3 – 5 years old the basics of fire safety and show them how to respond in an emergency situation.

Throughout the week AFD will partner with our local schools and run supported fire drills, provide a Fire Safety Starts with You! program for grade five students and go door to door in select communities for home safety visits.

The week will wrap up with Fire Safety Day on Saturday, Oct. 13 at Chinook Winds Fire Station from 1 – 4 p.m. Residents are invited to drop in where we will have displays, interactive activities and refreshments for all. Children should expect a visit from sparky the Fire Dog.

For a complete list of Fire Prevention Week events, see the attached event schedule. Please note, due to the number of scheduled events, AFD will not be able to accommodate fire station tours during Fire Prevention Week.

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### **Media Contacts:**

Garth Rabel, Deputy Chief  
Linda Masson, Deputy Chief  
Airdrie Fire Department  
(403) 948-8880  
[garth.rabel@airdrie.ca](mailto:garth.rabel@airdrie.ca)  
[linda.masson@airdrie.ca](mailto:linda.masson@airdrie.ca)  
[www.airdrie.ca](http://www.airdrie.ca)

# News Release



## Event Schedule

### Monday, Oct. 9

#### Play Safe! Be Safe! Preschool Program kicks off

- Preschool teachers can sign out a Play Safe! Be Safe! kit from the fire station for up to one week.
- The kit contains a 20-minute DVD featuring firefighter Dan, color story/flash cards, dress the firefighter activity board, Safe for Play! Keep Away! card game and a comprehensive teacher's resource book.
- Following completion of the program a visit from fire crews can be booked through Fire Headquarters. A fire crew will visit the preschool with a fire truck. During this visit children can explore the fire truck, see a firefighter in full gear and receive a small fire safety gift from AFD.
- This program will be offered all year round, but will kick off during Fire Prevention Week.

### Wednesday, Oct. 10

#### 2012 Junior Fire Chief Announced

- Open to all grade five students from participating schools in Airdrie
- Students submit a 50 word essay on the topic "How I can keep my family fire safe"
- Teachers select the winning essay from the class and submit it to AFD
- AFD will review the finalists and choose Airdrie's 2012 Jr. Fire Chief

### Thursday, Oct. 11

#### Home Safety Visits

- Firefighters will go door to door in select communities and review the fire safety checklist with residents. Checklist covers alarms, escape planning, kitchen/living areas/bedrooms/basement and garage safety.
- If a home does not have a smoke alarm, one will be installed and/or batteries provided where needed.

### Saturday, Oct. 13

#### Fire Safety Day

- Fire Safety Day held at Chinook Winds Fire Station (2525 Chinook Winds Drive SW) from 1 – 4 p.m.
- Residents are invited to drop in for some hands on fire safety exercises, including:
  - o Hazard house
  - o Stove top demo
  - o Information on Smoke alarms, CO detectors and safety ladders
  - o Bedroom fire drill
  - o Fire extinguisher training
- Sparky the fire Dog
- Snacks provided by our corporate partner Canada Safeway