



Midway Fire Rescue Fire and Life Safety Tips For a Safe Vacation



The members from Midway Fire Rescue welcome you to our community. We want you and your family to have a Fun Vacation, and we also want to ensure you have a Safe Vacation. The department has put together several simple and important “Vacation Safety Tips” for you to utilize during your stay.

Please take a few minutes to review these Safety Tips with the entire family.

Know The Street Address Where You Are Staying

To ensure we can reach you in the quickest manner possible, ensure everyone in your family knows the Street Number, Street Name, Unit Name, and Unit Number where you are staying. In the event of an EMERGENCY, call 9-1-1, be prepared with the correct address, type of problem, name, and phone number

OCCUPANCY ADDRESS: _____

If you spend time on the ocean, determine the closest cross-street to the Beach Access you utilize. It is also helpful to send someone to the road side of the Beach Access to meet emergency responders

CROSS STREET TO BEACH: _____

Develop and Practice an Escape Plan for your Family

As with your primary family residence, we feel it is also critical to develop and practice a “Home Escape Plan” when you are sleeping overnight in our community, to include all family members and friends.

- Determine **TWO EXITS** from each sleeping area (High-rise buildings may have multiple stairways)
- **NEVER** use an elevator to exit a building in the event of a fire , always use the stairs to exit
- Have a **DESIGNATED MEETING PLACE** outside of the house, condo or hotel where everyone meets
- Practice the **ESCAPE PLAN** the first day you arrive at your destination, include all family members
- The practice will ensure you know where all stairways are located and where they exit the building
- Designate an adult to provide assistance to small children, the elderly, or others needing assistance
- Have an adult meet the first Fire Engine to give them particulars on the incident and anyone missing

Safety In the Kitchen

Please ensure you are vigilant when cooking while on vacation. Unfortunately, fires in the kitchen, predominantly while frying foods, are the “Number One” cause of fires across our community.

- Ensure someone is always at the stove whenever you are cooking with oil and grease
- If a fire were to occur on the stovetop, immediately cover the burning pan with a top or a cookie sheet
- **NEVER** attempt to move or carry a burning pan of food, and **NEVER** put water on an oil or grease fire
- Know where the fire extinguishers are located in your home, and use the **PASS** method to operate

~**P**ull the Pin ~**A**im Nozzle ~**S**queeze the Handle ~**S**weep Nozzle at the Base of the Fire

Midway Fire Rescue ~ Division of Fire and Life Safety

Fire and Life Safety Tips for a Safe Vacation

Safety in the Ocean and Swimming Pool

- Life Guards are typically not available, please have a **“Designated Kid Watcher”** at all times
- A **“Designated Kid Watcher”** should not be involved in ANY OTHER ACTIVITY when designated
- Utilize Coast Guard Personal Flotation Devices for those who cannot swim
- Toys which are filled with air are not Life Saving Devices and should not be used as such

Be Aware of the Rip Currents in the Ocean

- Rip Currents are channels of water which forcefully flow away from the shore
- A Rip Current will pull swimmers, even those experienced, away from the shore line
- Rip Currents clues are breaks in incoming wave patterns, churning & choppy water, water color change
- For more Information on Rip Current Safety go to <https://www.weather.gov/safety/ripcurrent>

Campfires on the Beach

- DO NOT burn fires on extremely windy days or nights and DO NOT burn fires within 50 feet of the dune line
- Campfire should be no larger than three feet in diameter
- You can only burn clean, dry wood (No plastic or trash). Town of Pawleys Island only allows charcoal fires
- Do not utilize flammable liquids to start the fire
- Fires must be attended by an adult at all times
- All fires must be completely extinguished and covered before leaving the beach
- Please make following notifications before your fire:
Georgetown Dispatch Center 1-843-527-6763
South Carolina State Forestry Office 1-800-986-5256
- The Town of Pawleys Island requires a permit for Beach Fires within the town limits. Contact the Town Hall at 1-843-237-1698 for burn permit requirements (No Fee)

Cooking on Charcoal and LP Gas Grills

- **NEVER** utilize grills on Balconies or Patios
- Grills should be 10 feet from the building
- Always remember to turn off gas bottle
- Always completely drown ashes with water

Safety Features in your Residence

- Ensure the Smoke Alarms are operational
- Ensure there is a Fire Extinguisher in the home, or know the location in the hallway
- **CONTACT THE MANAGER/OWNER IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH EITHER OF THESE**

Midway Fire Rescue

Midway Fire Rescue provides all-hazards response from three Fire Rescue Stations. Our response district reaches from Huntington State Park to the City of Georgetown, and the Waccamaw River to the Atlantic Ocean. We provide Fire, Emergency Medical Services, Technical Rescue, and Hazardous Materials response to meet the needs of our citizens, businesses and visitors. Additionally, the department is very active with water related emergencies, and we respond water-rescue resources to the ocean and river from all three fire-rescue stations.

For Emergency Situations requiring Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement, please dial 9-1-1

There are two local Tidelands Health Hospitals in close proximity to you if the need should arise

Waccamaw Community to the North ~ 4070 Highway 17 Bypass South, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576 ~ 843-652-1000

Georgetown Memorial to the South ~ 606 Black River Road, Georgetown, SC 29440 ~ 843-527-7000

There are several Pharmacies situated along Ocean Highway throughout our entire response district

For additional information contact us at mnugent@gtcounty.org
Prevent Harm ~ Survive ~ Be Nice