



September 2018

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK POSTER CONTEST

Fire departments throughout the state have been sent information about the 2018 Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest and have been encouraged to work with their local schools to help in this fire safety awareness effort.

We encourage you to contact your local fire department for assistance and guidance if you would like to participate in this event. If your local fire department is unable to assist, you may still participate.

### BACKGROUND

The Division of State Fire Marshal is conducting the annual statewide fire safety poster contest. The purpose of the contest is to recognize individuals who have demonstrated an understanding of the issues related to fire safety education and who have shown the ability to visually portray that knowledge.

The contest will take place during Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 7-13) to help emphasize and support fire safety education efforts. This year, we will be implementing the theme “Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere.” We ask that each participating student depict what they can do proactively to prevent or escape a fire in a timely manner. The contest is open to all elementary school children in Ohio. Two grade categories will be eligible: grades K-3 and grades 4-6. There will be six state finalists in each grade category. The winning entries will receive a special recognition by the Division of State Fire Marshal starting in the spring of 2019, prior to the end of the school year.

### HOW TO ENTER

Fire departments are encouraged work with their local elementary schools. The fire department (or local school official if the fire department is not participating) selects its local winners – a maximum of one in each grade category to be sent to the Division of State Fire Marshal. The State Fire Marshal will appoint a committee to review all submissions and will select six state finalists in each grade category for special recognition. (NOTE: A fire department or school may also recognize additional “winners” locally.)

## TIMELINE

### ◆ Kickoff – September

- Participating fire departments should meet with school officials to introduce contest.
- A copy of the Rules for Fire Safety Posters should be provided to the participating schools.
- Students can begin work on the posters.
- Information on the back of each poster should include:
  - Name of student
  - Grade and age of student
  - Name of fire department with FDID number if fire department is participating
  - Name of school
  - Classroom or teacher's name
  - Address and phone number of school

**\*Please print clearly or attach label**

### ◆ Submission – Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 7-13, 2018)

- Posters are submitted to the fire department (or school officials where a fire department is not participating) for the selection of local winners.
- Fire departments and/or schools are encouraged to recognize participants locally.
- Artwork may be displayed locally to help emphasize fire safety awareness.
- Suggested deadline for submissions to local fire department is Oct. 1, to display posters locally during Fire Prevention Week.

### ◆ Deadline – Nov. 5, 2018

Fire department (or school official where a fire department is not participating) should submit from the local finalists; **one** selection from **each** grade categories K-3 and 4-6 – **a total of two posters** - to the State Fire Marshal. Please send NO more than two posters from your agency/district.

Send to:

Fire Prevention Bureau  
ATTN: Poster Contest  
Division of State Fire Marshal  
8895 East Main Street  
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

The Division of State Fire Marshal will notify fire departments (or school official where a fire department is not participating) when winners are selected. This should take place prior to the end of February 2019.

If you have any questions, please contact the Division of State Fire Marshal's Fire Prevention Bureau at 1-888-243-0305, option #1.

# RULES FOR FIRE SAFETY POSTERS

- ◆ Posters must include the national theme “Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere”.  
Posters should display *positive* behavior statements of what students can do to prevent a fire at home. This may include identifying common places fires can start, showing what steps to take when a smoke alarm sounds, and having fire escape plans with two ways out.
- ◆ Posters must be on 8.5” x 11” paper – ***larger sizes will not be considered.***
- ◆ Any colors may be used. A white or light-colored background is preferred.
- ◆ Crayons, markers, pencils, etc., can be used.
- ◆ All artwork must be original. No computer-generated artwork or photographs may be used. Clippings from magazines, newspapers, and books are not appropriate. No traced images are accepted.
- ◆ The poster surface should remain flat.
- ◆ All posters become the property of the Division of State Fire Marshal and ***will not be returned.*** Please copy or photograph your artwork before submitting it.
- ◆ The back of the poster **MUST CLEARLY INCLUDE:**
  - Name of student
  - Grade and age of student
  - Name of fire department with FDID number, if fire department is participating
  - Name of school
  - Classroom or teacher’s name
  - Address and phone number of school**\*Please print clearly or attach label**

If information is missing, the entry will be disqualified from consideration.

- ◆ All posters must be completed and turned over to the fire department, if participating, prior to the *Oct. 1 deadline* so winners can be chosen and presented locally during Fire Prevention Week.
- ◆ The fire department (or school officials where a fire department is not participating) must submit **only two winning posters** to the Fire Marshal by the *Nov. 5* deadline. (**One** selection from **each** grade category.)

A committee established by the Division of State Fire Marshal will judge finalists. The fire department (or school) will be notified of winners prior to the end of February 2019.