



Beach Park Professional Firefighters  
Local No. 4806

**Beach Park Fire Fighters Promote Home Fire Drill Day**

**Beach Park, Illinois** – Only 1 in 5 parents regularly practice fire escape plans at home, and only half of parents report that their children know what to do in the event of a fire. Yet, home fires are the biggest disaster threat facing American families today, with nine in 10 structure fires occurring in the home and more than eight in 10 fire-related deaths resulting from home fires.

To raise awareness of this issue and encourage families to be more prepared when it comes to fire safety, Beach Park firefighters have partnered with Nationwide's [Make Safe Happen](#) program to promote a new national observance day – Home Fire Drill Day – on the last Saturday (October 14) of the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) [Fire Prevention Week](#).

This is the first time that like-minded parties from the public and private sector are collaborating on this single, life-saving call to action. Home Fire Drill Day tips include:

- Prepare for the practice by drawing out a plan based on the exits around the home.
- Pick a family safety spot that's near your home and a safe distance away.
- Test your smoke alarms with your kids so they know what the beep sounds like.
- For children fewer than six, assign an adult to help them.
- Use a timer to ensure everyone is at the safety spot in two minutes or less, this is how much time a family has to safely exit the house in the event of a fire.

“When a fire happens at home, children can become frightened and hide,” says Chris Samuels, a firefighter with the Beach Park Professional Firefighters Local No. 4806. “It is our hope that by practicing for these emergencies, by educating our children, we can save lives and even have a little fun while doing it.”





By nature, simulating an emergency like a fire drill can be scary, but by infusing fun into the at-home practice, parents can help their kids feel safer should a fire actually happen. With the help of expert partners, Nationwide's Make Safe Happen program has developed a series of interactive fire drill games available at [HomeFireDrillDay.com](http://HomeFireDrillDay.com) that parents can play with their children – from racing the clock, to practicing in the dark or to crawling out of the house as quickly as possible.

Your Beach Park firefighters encourage everyone in the community to participate in Home Fire Drill Day on October 14 and to make practicing a home fire drill a twice-yearly tradition.

For more information, contact the Beach Park Professional Firefighter Local No. 4806 at (847) 662 2642.

Thank you and respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christian M. Samuels', is written over a faint, illegible background.

Christian M. Samuels, President  
Beach Park Professional Firefighters  
Local No. 4806