



**Division of Fire Safety
Berlin Administrative Office**

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The Annual State of Vermont Fire Safety Poster Contest and Calendar Program.

Have kids take home important fire safety messages this year by participating in the 19th Annual Vermont Fire Safety Calendar Program organized by the Vermont Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety. The calendars bring fire safety messages to the parents and families of elementary school children every day in the year, to thousands of homes across the state.

The Vermont Fire Safety Calendar Program provides a focused learning experience when the children prepare fire safety posters for the calendar. A team of judges then selects 13 posters for the 19th ANNUAL VERMONT FIRE SAFETY CALENDAR. Thousands of calendars are then printed and delivered to schools throughout the state by the end of the year so that children can take them home for the New Year. The fire safety calendar program goes hand and hand with the many fire safety programs organized by local fire departments around Fire Prevention Week.

Fire Prevention Week is October 4 through October 10, 2009, but schools and home schoolers can work on the posters before or after fire prevention week, depending on your school's schedule. The finished posters must be dropped off at one of the Division's regional offices by October 23, 2009, or if you are sending them directly to the main office in Berlin they must be received by October 30, 2009. The poster contest is open to all third grade students.

Educators have advised that third grade students are at a good point in their development to understand and promote the issues regarding fire safety. Art teachers recommend that big, bold, designs and messages show up the best and attract the interest of the students.

To make sure the posters sent in from your school are suitable for use in the calendar make sure:

- **The posters are on white paper not exceeding 12 by 20 inches in size**
- **The Posters include the student's name, the teacher's name and the school on the back**
- **Posters should be submitted flat and not folded or rolled to avoid lines in the posters.**

Fire is a leading cause of accidental death and injury to children. The majority of these injuries and fatalities occur in the home. The Vermont Fire Safety Calendar is an excellent way to get fire safety messages into the home and the calendar acts as a continual reminder for safety throughout the year.

The focus this Fire Prevention Week is to make fire safety a part of daily life throughout the year by coordinating fire prevention topics for each month. Posters will be selected from the themes listed below to be included in the 2010 Fire Safety Calendar.

Fire Prevention Topics

January – Matches and Lighters are Tools not Toys

March - Kitchen & Cooking Safety

May - Electrical Safety

July - Fireworks Safety

September - Firefighters are Heroes; Don't Fear Firefighters in Gear

November - Smoke Detectors (Maintenance & Replacement)

February - Residential Fire Sprinkler Protection

April - Prevention of Grass and Brush Fires

June - Home Escape Planning and Home Emergency Planning

August - Stop, Drop & Roll

October - Carbon Monoxide Detectors and Home Heating Safety

December - Safe Use of Candles & Holiday Safety

Cover – Multiple Fire Prevention Messages

Thank you for your help with this important program. For additional information on the Vermont Fire Safety Calendar Program, or to get involved as a supporting sponsor of the program, contact the Division of Fire Safety, Berlin office, Robert Howe, Assistant State Fire Marshal at 1-800-640-2106. or rhowe@dps.state.vt.us

