



How to Keep Your Home Safe

Ensure your home's safety with a free inspection from the Novi Fire Department

Safety checklist:

- ❑ Electrical hazards
- ❑ Fire hazards
- ❑ Missing or inoperative CO & smoke detectors
- ❑ "Trip and fall" hazards
- ❑ Defective stairs and rails
- ❑ Improper hot water temperature

Each year, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, nearly one million people over age 65 are treated in hospital emergency rooms for injuries associated with the products they live with and use every day. The death rate from unintentional injuries in the home is approximately three times greater for older people than for the younger population. Seniors may not realize their home is no longer safe and presents dangers to which they are unaware.

In an effort to better protect and prepare older adults, the Novi Fire Department created a program aimed at reducing the threat of injury and fire to Novi residents. The Fire and Fall Prevention for Older Adults Program is designed to educate residents of the hazards within their own home which could cause harm or fire. With the new program, an officer with the Novi Fire Department will come to your home and

complete a safety checklist with you, making recommendations to ensure safety.

Slips and falls are the main source of injury for older people in the home. Fire Department Inspection team members may recommend the use of grab-bars and non-slip mats in the bathtub, handrails on both sides of the stairs, and slip-resistant carpets and rugs. Recognizing burns occur from hot tap water and from open flame, the inspection team may recommend consumers turn down the temperature of their water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit to help prevent scalding. They will also check to ensure the proper installation and maintenance of at least one smoke detector on every floor of the home.

Novi residents can request an in-home visit by the Novi Fire Department for safety inspection by calling the Novi Fire Department at 248.349.2162 or visiting the City's website at cityofnovi.org.