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TRICK-OR-TREAT 2020 SAFETY TIPS



Residents who do not want to have trick-or-treaters at their home should leave their porch lights off.

Residents who choose to welcome trick-or-treaters should follow these safety tips:

- 🔗 Wear a cloth mask
 - 🔗 Use hand sanitizer often
 - 🔗 Disinfect high-touch surfaces, such as door-knobs and doorbells
- For those who trick-or-treat, follow the safety

tips:

- 🔗 Trick-or-treat during daylight hours
- 🔗 Maintain at least six feet of social distance from others
- 🔗 Wear a mask that covers both your nose and your mouth
- 🔗 use hand sanitizer often



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CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 1, 2020, at 2:00 A.M. On Saturday night, set your clocks back one hour (gaining one hour) to "fallback."

Now is the perfect time to check and change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms.

Fire safety experts recommend you replace

your smoke alarm battery two times a year. A good rule of thumb is to change it when the clocks change in the fall...

Test smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button...If the alarm chirps to warn the battery is low, replace the battery right away.

A dead smoke alarm is worse than none at all. It gives you a false of secu-

urity. Don't disable your alarms - it's against the law.

Smoke alarms are the first line of defence in fire escape planning.

Most fatal fires occur at night when people are sleeping. A working smoke alarm will detect smoke and sound to alert you.

WORKING SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES!!

Recipe for Happiness

INGREDIENTS
 2 heaping cups of PATIENCE
 1 heart full of LOVE
 2 hands full of GENEROSITY
 1 head full of UNDERSTANDING
 a dash of LAUGHTER

DIRECTIONS
 Sprinkle generously with kindness.
 Add plenty of faith and mix well.
 Spread over a period of a lifetime
 and serve everyone you meet.



The Journey Home

GUIDELINES FOR SHOWING APARTMENTS DURING COVID-19

QUESTION

My boyfriend and I rent an apartment in a mid-sized building here in Ottawa. We are moving to a new apartment in mid-October, so we gave notice to terminate at the end of August. Now, our landlord has given us notice that they will be showing the apartment. They are offering to have a realtor come and video-chat with the potential renters, or to have the renters physically come to our apartment. Ideally, we'd leave for the showing, but we are both still working from home, and the showing is to be during the workday. That would be really inconvenient because we have nowhere to go and have jobs to do. Do we have to leave for the showing? How should a showing work during COVID-19?

ANSWER

We answered a question like this in May, but are answering this new question since the issue is a current concern to a number of tenants and landlords.

After you have given notice to terminate, your landlord is entitled to show the rental unit to prospective tenants provided the showing is between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., and the landlord makes a reasonable effort

to inform you of their intention before entering. A tenant who refuses a showing without proper grounds would be interfering with the landlord's reasonable enjoyment of the unit, which includes their right to re-rent it.

Ottawa Public Health provides guidance on how to reduce risk when showing rental units, but reminds landlords and tenants that the legal requirements under the Residential Tenancies Act are still in place.

OPH encourages virtual approaches to showing units to potential tenants. That could be showing floor plans (in large buildings) or showing photos or videos. If virtual or remote options are not feasible, OPH says that the landlord should politely request that the tenant stay out of the unit while the showing occurs.

If a prospective tenant (or the realtor) shows any symptoms of COVID-19, or meets any of the criteria requiring self-isolation, the visit must be postponed. That also applies if the tenant has symptoms or needs to self isolate. If a physical showing takes place, your landlord should keep records of prospective tenants' contact information for contact tracing.

Ottawa's Temporary Mandatory Mask bylaw requires people to wear a mask in an enclosed public space. Although

your apartment is not a public space, it is strongly recommended that everyone present for the showing wear a mask.

If you are unable to leave the unit during a showing, then all parties need to ensure physical distancing is observed. This may include tenants staying in their bedroom for the visit, and always staying at least two metres away from other people. Instead, perhaps you can take some work or something to read when you step out.

Before a visit, highly-touched surfaces like doorknobs should be cleaned and disinfected. Any surfaces touched during the visit should also be cleaned and disinfected. All parties should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering the unit and after exiting, and no one should touch their face unless their hands were just washed. OPH provides hand hygiene info at its website.

This and other guidance is found on the OPH website under "COVID-19 Information for Community Partners and Service Providers."

**BY DICKIE & LYMAN LLP
WHO PRACTICE LANDLORD/
TENANT LAW AND OTHER
AREAS OF LAW**

Smoke alarms that are properly installed and maintained play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out.

Clean Your Smoke Alarms

Dust can clog a smoke alarm. Gently vacuum alarms every six months using a soft brush. Never vacuum electrically-connected alarms unless you shut off the power. Test your unit when finished cleaning.

Most fatal fires occur at night when people are sleeping. Smoke alarm will detect smoke/sound to alert you.

A dead smoke alarm is worse than none at all. It gives you a false of security. Don't disable your alarms - It's against the law.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2020

As part of **Fire Prevention Week 2020**, Ontario's Office of the Fire Marshal encourages all Ontarians to take action to ensure they are safe from kitchen fires at home. The theme of this year's **Fire Prevention Week** is "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen."

"Fire Prevention Week is an excellent time to teach and remind people what they can do to promote fire safety." With more people working at home than ever before, this week will focus on tips and tools for fire safety in the kitchen. All individuals and families are encouraged to take the time to review their cooking practices to prevent fires and keep loved ones safe.

Simple Steps To Stay Safe In the

Kitchen Include:

- {} Always stay in the kitchen when cooking and turn the stove completely off if you must leave.
- {} Keep a proper fitting lid near the stove. If a pot of oil catches fire, slide the lid over the pot and turn off the stove. Do not move the pot. **Never throw water on a burning pot.**
- {} Keep anything that burns - plastic utensils, dishcloths, paper towels - a safe distance from the stove.
- {} Cook responsibly. To prevent cooking fires, you must alert. You are not alert if you have consumed alcohol or drugs.
- {} Wear tight fitting clothing or rollup your sleeves when using the stove.

Loose, dangling clothing can easily catch fire.

- {} Keep young kids one metre away from the stove. Turn pot handles away from the stove's edge so pots can't easily be knocked off.
- {} If you burn yourself while cooking, run cool water over the wound for three to five minutes. If the burns are severe, seek medical attention.

Fire Prevention Week runs from October 4-10 in communities across the province.

Make sure your smoke detectors are functioning by pressing the "test" button. If needed, replace the batteries. If they are not functioning after testing, install brand new smoke alarms.

FAMILY FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- {} Teach your kids how to respond in the event of a fire.
- {} Make sure young children know how to dial 911.
- {} Establish and practice a fire escape plan with your family that includes a designated meeting area outside the home.
- {} Practice stop, drop and roll with your children so they learn how to escaped beneath a fire.
- {} Teach everyone in your family

multiple ways to escape from every room in the event of a fire.

- {} Make sure that there is a sufficient quantity of smoke detectors in your home.
- {} Verify each month that smoke detectors are in working order.
- {} Make sure everyone in your family knows how to use a fire extinguisher.
- {} Do not place lit candles where they can be reached by children.

{} Never leave burning candles unattended.

- {} Do not leave candles burning when you go to sleep.
- {} Don't leave cooking food unattended on the stove.
- {} Keep everything that might be flammable away from your stove.
- {} Make sure all flammable substances are properly stored in safe containers and out of reach of youngsters.

Smoke alarms that are properly installed and maintained play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Creamy Pumpkin Soup

- 1 cup chopped celery (about 2 medium stalks)
 - 1 cup chopped onions (about 2 small)
 - 2 tbsp. Balsamic Vinaigrette Dressing
 - 4 cups cut-up fresh pumpkin (1-inch pieces)
 - 2 cans (10 fl oz.) 25%-less-sodium chicken broth
 - 2 soup cans water
 - 1/2 cup *Miracle Whip Calorie-Wise Spread*
- Cook celery and onions in vinaigrette

dressing in large saucepan on medium-high heat 5 min. or until vegetables are tender. Add pumpkin, broth and water; stir until well blended. Bring to boil; cover. Reduce heat to medium-low; simmer 20 to 25 min. or until pumpkin is tender.

Add pumpkin mixture to blender in batches; cover. Blend until smooth. Return to saucepan.

Stir in *Miracle Whip*; cook 2 to 3 min. or just until heated through, stirring frequently. (Do not boil.)

Substitute

If fresh pumpkin is unavailable, use 1 can (28 oz.) pumpkin instead.

JOKE CORNER

I had a dream I was eating a giant marshmallow and when I woke up my pillow was gone.

(Q) What stays in the corner and travels all over the world?

(A) A stamp.

(Q) What kind of button won't unbutton?

(A) A Bellybutton!

(Q) What do you call a condiment with a hit single?

(A) A must"heard"

I had an "hour glass" figure, but then the sand shifted.

HOME SAFETY TIPS FOR OLDER ADULTS

With a growing number of older adults living independently, it's increasingly important to make sure that they're safe at home. If you're an older adult living on your own, here's what you need to do to stay safe:

Safety-Proof Your Home

- ☞ Make sure all hallways, stairs, and paths are well lit and clear of objects such as books or shoes.
- ☞ Use rails and banisters when going up and down the stairs. Never place scatter rugs at the bottom of top of stairs.
- ☞ Tape all area rugs to the floor so they do not move when you walk on them.

Avoid Bathroom Hazards

- ☞ Set the thermostat on the water heater no higher than 120°F to prevent scalding.

☞ Have grab bars installed in the shower and near the toilet to make getting around easier and safer.

☞ Put rubber mats in the bathtub to prevent slipping.

Prevent Falls

☞ Don't rush to answer the phone. Many people fall trying to answer the phone. Either carry a cordless or cell phone or let an answering machine pick up.

☞ When walking on smooth floors, wear non-slip footwear, such as slippers with rubber/no-slip bottoms or flat, thin-soled shoes that fit well.

☞ If you have a cane or a walker, use it at all times instead of holding onto walls and furniture.

Protect Against Abuse

☞ Keep your windows and doors locked at all times.

☞ Never let a stranger into your home when you are there alone.

☞ Talk over offers made by telephone salespeople with a friend or family member.

☞ Do not share your personal information, such as social insurance number, credit card or bank information, or account passwords, with people you don't know who contact you.

☞ Always ask for written information about any offers, prizes, or charities and wait to respond until you have reviewed the information thoroughly.

☞ Do not let yourself be pressured into making purchases, signing contracts, or making donations. It's never rude to wait and discuss the plans with a family member or friend.