



News Release

Sunrise Fire-Rescue Department

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Thomas DiBernardo, Fire Chief

VACATION SAFETY

(SUNRISE, FL)- As we find ourselves late in the summer season, many folks will be squeezing in a last-minute family vacation before the kids return to school. If you'll be among those staying in a hotel or motel, keep in mind that it is just as important to be prepared and know what you would do in an emergency there as it is in your own home.

Did you know:

- On average, 1 in 13 hotels or motels reports a structure fire each year.
- Most fatal hotel fires start in a guest's room.
- Cooking equipment is the leading cause of hotel/motel fires.

Plan for a safe stay:

- Choose a hotel/motel that is protected by both smoke alarms and a fire sprinkler system.
- Upon arrival, review the escape plan posted in your room.
- Take the time to find the exits and count the number of doors between your room and the exit. Make sure the exits are unlocked. If they are locked, report it to management right away.
- Keep your room key by your bed and take it with you if there is a fire.
- If the alarm sounds, leave right away, closing all doors behind you. Use the stairs — never use elevators during a fire.
- If you must escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your exit.

If You Can't Escape...

- Shut off fans and air conditioners.
- Stuff wet towels in the crack around the doors.
- Call the fire department and let them know your location.
- Wait at the window and signal with a flashlight or light colored cloth.

If your hotel has a pool or hot tub, that's another area worth taking safety precautions. For any body of water, ALWAYS have an adult dedicated to watching children with a direct-line-of-sight and within arms-reach in and around the water. In addition, look out for the following at your hotel's pool:

- Is the pool clean, is and the water clear enough that you can see the bottom drain from the deck?
- Are the surrounding fence and gate latch secure?
- Does the pool drain grate appear securely attached and unbroken?
- Do the pool lights appear to be securely affixed to the wall?
- Are the any handrails or ladders loose or broken?

If you notice problems with any of these things, skip the dip in the pool and report the issues to management. Hopefully all will appear in good order, but it is still best to keep children from the pool lights and drain when swimming, to help avoid potential electrocution and entrapment hazards.

For more information, please visit www.sunrisefl.gov/Fire,
and follow @SunriseFRD on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SunriseFRD) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/SunriseFRD).

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