

984 Gorham Street, Newmarket, ON L3Y 1L8 Administration: 905-895-9222 Emergency: 9-1-1

Get low and go!

Fire safety tips for residents living in multi-level apartment buildings

Newmarket, ON, June 16, 2016 – Central York Fire Services (CYFS) would like to remind residents of Newmarket and Aurora living in apartments, to 'get low to the floor and go under the smoke to safety' in the event of a fire.

If there is a fire in your apartment building:

- Alert the other building residents by pulling the fire alarm on your floor and yelling 'fire' as you exit.
- Close all doors behind you.
- Get low to the floor and go under the smoke, exit the building by using the nearest safe stairway.
- Once outside, call 9-1-1 from a safe location.
- Meet the firefighters at the front entrance and tell them where the fire is.

If you decide to leave your suite:

- Check the door to your apartment. If smoke is entering from around the door, do not open it. If you see smoke or feel heat, close the door to protect yourself by staying in the unit. If there is no smoke, brace yourself and open the door a little. If the corridor is clear, take the nearest stairway. Do not use the elevator and remember to bring your keys with you.
- Open the nearest stairway door carefully. If there's no smoke, use the stairway to leave the building. If there is smoke, do not enter. Close the door, go to another stairway and open the door carefully. If you are not able to use the stairs, return to your apartment to protect yourself from smoke by staying in the unit.
- Never go to the roof of the building. Smoke usually rises to the top of the stairway. Doors opening onto the roof are locked and you could be trapped.

If you decide to remain in your apartment:

- Call 9-1-1, tell them where you are and listen for instructions from fire department personnel.
- Do not go to the balcony unless conditions in your unit force you to do so. Otherwise, staying in your unit with your doors and windows closed is the safest place to be should you choose to remain in your unit.
- To prevent smoke from entering the suite, place a rolled towel at the bottom of the hallway door. Avoid other items that may interfere with access for the firefighters if they need to enter your suite.

Remember, if there is smoke, *get low and go under the smoke* to safety. To learn about your building's fire safety plan and emergency procedures, talk to your landlord or superintendent. For more fire safety tips, visit <u>www.cyfs.ca</u>

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