



WAYNESBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION and LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION
E-BULLETIN

September/ October 2009

Welcome to the first Waynesboro Fire Department e-bulletin. Lives and property are threatened by fire and other disasters everyday. It is our hope this bi-monthly news letter will present information on ways everyone can stay safe and be prepared in the event of an emergency. You will find sections in this bulletin about fire prevention and life safety education and about activities the fire department is presenting. Your firefighters are always ready to respond with honor, pride, and compassion.



Fire Prevention Week commemorates the **Great Chicago Fire of October 8-9, 1871**. The landmark disaster raged for several days and killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 more homeless, and destroyed more than 17,000 buildings.

The 'Moo' myth

Like any good story, the 'case of the cow' has some truth to it. The great fire almost certainly started near the barn where Mrs. O'Leary kept her five milking cows. But there is no proof that O'Leary was in the barn when the fire broke out - or that a jumpy cow sparked the blaze. Mrs. O'Leary herself swore that she'd been in bed early that night, and that the cows were also tucked in for the evening.

But if a cow wasn't to blame for the huge fire, what was? Over the years, journalists and historians have offered plenty of theories. Some blamed the blaze on a couple of neighborhood boys who were near the barn sneaking cigarettes. Others believed that a neighbor of the O'Leary's may have started the fire. Some people have speculated that a fiery meteorite may have fallen to earth on October 8, starting several fires that day - in Michigan and Wisconsin, as well as in Chicago.



The Waynesboro Fire Department will host an open house on October 11, 2009 from 1-4 pm at the fire station, 300 W. Broad St. There will be games, prizes, literature, public safety displays, refreshments and music. A day filled with Fun opportunities for all ages to learn fire and life safety education.



November 1, 2009 Daylight savings time ends. That means we set our clocks back one hour and get to sleep in...YAY for those who like to sleep. So if you change your clocks before you go to bed or at 2 am, remember this, change your clocks, change your batteries. Put new batteries in your smoke detector(s). The Waynesboro Fire Department encourages everyone to have a working smoke detector on every level of their homes. For more information contact us at (540) 942-6730.

Waynesboro Fire Department installs smoke detectors free to the residents of the City of Waynesboro.



Virginia Fall Wildfire Season- October 15 to November 30, 2009. No burning before 4pm. For further information visit the Virginia Department of Forestry at www.dof.virginia.gov.

No burning is allowed inside Waynesboro city limits at anytime
