



Coffee Break Training - Fire Prevention and Public Education

Educational Messages

No. FM-2015-2 November 5, 2015

Learning Objective: The students will be able to explain how to access the Educational Messages Desk Reference — 2015.

Have you ever been asked to give a safety presentation to a local community group? Have you ever questioned whether your information is the most accurate? You are not alone. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) created the Educational Messages Advisory Committee, which meets periodically to review educational messages. These fire safety experts provide recommendations to NFPA's public education staff for updating and revising the messages.

These messages are intended to be used by members of fire and emergency services, fire and life safety educators, and other fire safety advocates so that accurate and consistent language is used when giving safety information to the public. The messages are published in NFPA's Educational Messages Desk Reference — 2015. This is a free resource.

The desk reference has 18 chapters and covers such topics as:

- Home smoke alarms.
- Home fire sprinklers.
- Carbon monoxide.
- Candles.
- Portable fire extinguishers and firefighting.
- Medical oxygen.

Each topic area is self-contained, written so that all the information needed on a certain subject is provided within that category. This is a great tool that anyone in fire and emergency services can access to get the most accurate information on a subject. Here is an example of what is considered to be the most accurate information for matches and lighters:

Chapter 14 — Matches and Lighters

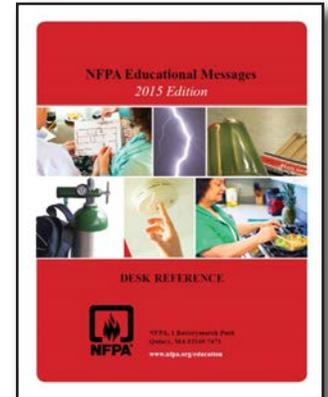
“14.1.1 Keep matches, lighters, and novelty lighters high out of the reach of children, in a locked cabinet.

“14.1.2 Purchase and use only child-resistant lighters.

“14.1.3 Lighters that look like toys can confuse children and cause fire, injuries, and death. Do not buy or use them.

“14.1.4 Teach young children to tell a grownup when they find matches or lighters and to never touch matches or lighters.”

For further information on educational messaging, go to www.nfpa.org/education.



For archived downloads, go to:

www.usfa.fema.gov/training/coffee_break/