FIRE SAFETY AT EAST RIVER

In the second of our series on Fire Safety at East River, we offer useful tips and information from the FDNY to help in avoiding a fire in our cooperatives.

With a number of recent fires both in East River and in the news, we ask that everyone remember fire safety starts with you; together we can work as a team to reinforce fire safety and fire prevention. Along with minimizing clutter in your home, the FDNY offers the following tips and necessities:

INSTALL SMOKE DETECTORS -- Test them often to make sure they work. Replace the batteries at least twice a year when you change your clock for daylight savings.

HAVE A HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN -- Develop a home escape plan with your family in case of fire. Practice it. Have a pre-arranged meeting place somewhere outside.

HOME SAFETY INSPECTION -- Conduct a safety inspection of potential fire hazards in the home. Eliminate them. Make every room fire safe.

TOP TEN FIRE SAFETY TIPS
- Smoke alarms save lives. Install and maintain them.
- Smoking and drinking are a lethal combination. Smoking carelessness is a leading cause of fire. Don’t empty ashtrays into the trash or the compactor chute.
- Keep matches, lighters and candles away from children.
- Be careful with candles. Don’t leave them unattended. Never sleep with candles burning.
- Remove electrical cords from under rugs and behind radiators.
- Never nail or staple the cord to walls or molding.
- Never overload outlets and extension cords.
- Never put a portable space heater near drapes, furniture, bedding or other flammable materials.
- Move flammable liquids stored near the stove or other heat source to a safe, distant location.
- Early notification can make all the difference — in case of fire, call 911.

CANDLE SAFETY TIPS
- Keep candles at least 4 feet away from curtains, draperies, decorations, blinds and bedding.
- Never place candles under any cabinets or shelving.
- Use sturdy candleholders.
- Use candleholders with flame protective noncombustible shades.
- Place candles out of reach of small children and pets.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.

TRANSPORTATION NEWS

Additional transit service has arrived. In June, the M Line began providing limited weekend service to Williamsburg and Ridgewood. Weekend service on the M line, which operates on weekdays between Metropolitan Avenue/Middle Village-Queens and 71st Avenue-Forest Hills, has been extended between Metropolitan Avenue/Middle Village and Essex Street on Saturdays and Sundays. Please note, the M will not operate via Broadway-Lafayette, Sixth Avenue, 53rd Street and Queens Boulevard to Forest Hills on weekends.

Still waiting on the arrival of the bus by relying on schedules and crane your neck? There’s an app to stop that and let you know in real-time when the bus is going to arrive. NYC Bus Checker is free, licensed by the MTA, and provides live bus countdowns on your mobile device. Whether you are already standing at the bus stop, or in your apartment deciding whether to go wait on the bus in the rain, you’ll know when the next bus is really going to show up. NYC Bus Checker is available for iPhone, Android, and Windows mobile devices and can be downloaded for free at: http://www.buschecker.com/?app=nyc

ICE CREAM SOCIAL SEASON AT EAST RIVER

On June 26, the House Committee’s Community Relations Committee led by Judi Aronowitz hosted a well attended and fun Ice Cream Social in the garden between Buildings 1 and 2. The event signaled the start of summer with fantastic weather and was well attended by cooperators of all ages.

All cooperators are invited to attend the next Ice Cream Social on Thursday, August 28th from 7-8:30 P.M. We expect another clear summer evening, but in case of rain, note that the event will move inside to the lobby of Building 2. The Ice Cream Social provides a great opportunity to enjoy our park, meet and chat with fellow East River residents and, best of all, enjoy some refreshing summertime treats! We look forward to seeing you there.

EMAIL AND WEB COMMUNICATIONS AT EAST RIVER

Get the info you need wherever you are by signing up for East River’s Email Notification System. By providing Management with your email address, you receive email alerts during an emergency, information and updates regarding important maintenance issues, and weather related alerts. Your email address will be kept private, and personal information will be safeguarded in a conscientious manner.

Please visit our web site at www.EastRiverHousing.com and sign-up on the “Contact Us” page.

PUBLISHED BY THE EAST RIVER HOUSE COMMITTEE

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE is a group of East River neighbors elected by shareholders to advise the Board and Management on quality-of-life issues of importance. The committee meets monthly and focuses on several areas including, buildings and grounds, security, transportation and sustainability. Activities of the House Committee include hosting social nights for cooperators, such as Meet the Neighbors events and ice cream socials, conducting monthly walk-throughs to note maintenance issues, and providing suggestions for our community’s improvement. The newsletter is a means of communicating with residents and we hope you will find it useful and interesting.

We welcome your input, suggestions and questions. If you would like to contact us, or are interested in becoming a House Committee Member (Elections to be held at the Annual Meeting scheduled for November), you may contact us at our email address, ERHouseCommittee@aol.com or through the Management Office at 530 Grand Street. All written suggestions or concerns will be discussed at our meetings.