## TIPS ON HOW TO PREVENT SHACK FIRES

- Turn off all electrical appliances if power failure occurs in your area.
- Never overload wall sockets, as this might start a fire.
- Do not leave pots unattended on a stove when cooking.
- Ensure that your stoves and candles are well placed in a balanced surface and cannot fall over any time.
- Make sure you do not leave your home or fall asleep while your candles, heaters, braziers or paraffin stoves are still switched on.
- Educate children about the dangers of a fire and what they should do if they find themselves in a dangerous situation.

- Store matches and lighters up high, out of reach of young children.
- Do not leave your children alone in the house when these items (candles, heaters, braziers & paraffin stoves) are on as these might endanger them.
- If you have security bars on your windows or doors, make sure there is a release mechanism that works and that everyone in the household knows how to use them.
- Do not allow children to play with an open fire, especially during heating time.
- Make sure children never touch a space heater or put anything near it.
- Keep appliance cords, wires, etc. out of reach of young children.

DISASTER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

**SMOKE IS A LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN HOME FIRES** Smoke alarms save lives. Project your family and home from fire.

## HEAR THE BEEP, WHERE YOU SLEEP

**National Disaster Management Centre** Tel: 012 848 4602 Fax: 012 848 4636 Web: www.ndmc.gov.za



## cooperative governance

Department: Cooperative Governance **REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA** 



## INSTALL AND MAINTAIN SMOKE ALARMS



Install a smoke alarm outside every sleeping area.

Test smoke alarms monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.  $\checkmark$ 

Teach children what your smoke alarm sounds like and what to do if they hear it.  $\bigcirc$ 

