



YOUR MANAGERS' REPORT

Feb / March 2006

The Worth Ross Tenant Newsletter Service



**Celebrate America
President's Day
February 20, 2006**

Your Worth Ross & Associates Team!

Contact Us: (214) 522-9100

Worth Ross
Broker Owner, Ext. 202
worth@worthross.com

Kevin Curran
Agent, Ext. 212
kevin@worthross.com

Oliver Roberts
Agent, Ext. 207
oliver@worthross.com

Chris Vogel
Agent, Ext. 215
chris@worthross.com

Melissa Zacha
Agent, Ext. 216
melissa@worthross.com

Jere Becker
Agent, Ext. 214
jere@worthross.com

Jamillah Gardner
Work Order Supervisor, Ext. 204
jamilla@worthross.com

Jayne Morin
Accounting, Ext. 205
jayne@worthross.com

Ping Liu, CPA
Accounting, Ext. 211
ping@worthross.com

Terri Chamness
Association Mgr., Ext. 201
terri@worthross.com

worthross.com

FIRE PREVENTION, PART ONE

As you are aware, Texas has been experiencing the worst drought conditions of the past 50 years and this has caused incredible fires in the last few months. It can happen to anyone and anywhere. Many times fires can be prevented with planning and simple steps. We feel this is so important, that we are devoting two newsletters to fire prevention. This is part one on "Fire Prevention."

Conduct a resident/family meeting and develop a plan. These steps are crucial for both interior and exterior fires.

- Everyone should be aware of what can happen when there is a fire, so plan a meeting or meetings to discuss what causes household fires, how to prevent them, and how to handle them if they do occur. Make sure any minor aged residents participate so they are as informed and prepared.
- Always keep the smoke alarm/detector tested and if it has a battery, replace it when necessary.
- Never disconnect a smoke alarm/detector – it can save lives.
- Find different ways for everyone to sound an alarm – they can yell, pound on a wall, whistle, etc. Do not just rely on the smoke alarm/detector.
- If someone is hearing impaired,

figure out how to alert them, such as vibration, flashing lights, or another method.

- Train everyone on how to call 911 and give out the correct information.
- Organize critical documents to take if there is time, but be sure every resident knows escape is the most important thing.
- Determine an escape plan from every room in the house – every room should have two means of escape, if possible, and rope ladders are useful for evacuating upper floors, unless there is a fire escape in the building.
- If the fire is an outside fire, work out evacuation routes to take from the property and the safest transportation.

The following are simple steps to avoid exterior fires

- It is crucial to keep landscape watered all year round. Dry bushes and grasses are fires waiting to happen.
- It is equally important to keep the foundation watered around your residence.
- Keep grasses mowed and trimmed wherever possible to avoid areas that could kindle easily and keep debris picked up.
- Never put hot ashes from a

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**Worth Ross
Management Co. Inc.**
4145 Travis St., #204
Dallas, TX 75204
(800) 522-9119
(214) 522-9100
Fax: (214) 528-6889
worth@worthross.com
worthross.com

Report Your Maintenance On The Internet!

Did You Know?

Did you know that you could report your maintenance on our updated Web Site? It's easy, just go to www.worthross.com and choose Resident Information, and then, Maintenance Form. Just fill in each item, tabbing from one to another, and send. We will send a confirmation e-mail to you.

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Dallas, TX 75204

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fireplace in a garbage receptacle, on a wood deck or porch, or on any grassy area – it only takes a spark to start a major fire.

- Make sure cigarettes are disposed of properly and never toss into dry grass or debris.
- Never store newspapers, boxes, or any other debris against the residence that could easily burn.
- When using a barbecue grill outside, leave sufficient space away from siding and eaves.
- Always supervise a grill until it is cold, and in the case of gas grills, be sure hose connections are tight and check hoses for leaks.
- Never store gasoline near a possible ignition

source and never smoke when handling gasoline; store gasoline in proper containers approved by the local or state fire authorities.

- Only start a lawnmower safely away from the residence and from any area that could possibly ignite, such as dry grass or debris.
- Do not use fireworks around your residence – attend a professional fireworks display where you can truly enjoy a spectacular event and avoid a fire.



Utilize this information to plan for your household safety and prevent exterior fires. Coming up in the April/March newsletter, we will cover interior prevention and how to handle a fire if it does happen. 🏠