



MUNICIPALITÉ DU VILLAGE DE FORT-COULONGE
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FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2026

Prevention starts at home. Take a few minutes today to protect what matters most.

The Municipality of the Village of Fort-Coulonge Reminds Residents of the Importance of Fire Prevention

Fort-Coulonge, October 5, 2026 – As part of Fire Prevention Week, the Municipality of the Village of Fort-Coulonge wishes to raise awareness among residents about the importance of adopting good safety practices to protect individuals, families, and property from the risks associated with fire.

The Fort-Coulonge Fire Department has already begun its annual smoke alarm inspections throughout the municipality. These visits help ensure compliance with safety requirements and provide an opportunity to remind residents of the essential steps they can take to keep themselves and their families safe.

Homeowners and tenants are encouraged to regularly test their smoke alarms, replace batteries every six months or when the clocks change, and replace any smoke alarm that is more than 10 years old or has been painted.

During these inspections, firefighters also remind residents of the importance of keeping hallways, exits, and evacuation routes clear of obstacles to ensure a safe and efficient evacuation in the event of an emergency.

Over the past few days, several fire prevention and emergency preparedness activities have been carried out. Last Thursday, evacuation drills were conducted in Fort-Coulonge schools to familiarize students and staff with emergency procedures. In addition, on September 29, in collaboration with the Mansfield Fire Department, emergency response exercises were conducted at the seniors' residences in Fort-Coulonge and Mansfield to better prepare emergency personnel for real-life emergency situations.

Message from Fire Chief Gaétan Fortin

“Prevention remains our best tool for reducing the risk of fire and saving lives. I encourage all residents to take a few minutes to check their smoke alarms and discuss their family evacuation plan. Being prepared can make all the difference when an emergency occurs.”

The Fire Chief also offers the following recommendations to all residents:

- Make sure your smoke alarms are working properly.



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- Develop a clear home evacuation plan and practice it regularly with your family.
- Choose an outdoor meeting place where everyone can gather after evacuating.
- Never re-enter a burning building.

Preventing Risks During the Heating Season

As the heating season approaches, the Fire Department recommends that residents who heat with wood, oil, or propane ensure that their carbon monoxide detector is in good working condition.

It is also important to make sure that chimneys, flues, vents, and pipes are clean and properly maintained. For propane systems, outdoor vents should remain clear of debris, nests, and any other obstructions that could affect their safe operation.

Finally, before conducting any outdoor burning, residents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with municipal regulations and any restrictions currently in effect.

The Executive Management of the Municipality of the Village of Fort-Coulonge would like to thank the members of the Fire Department for their ongoing commitment to the safety of the community and encourage all residents to make fire prevention a shared responsibility.

Municipality of the Village of Fort-Coulonge
Fort-Coulonge Fire Department