

121 W. Broadway St.
Prosper, TX 75078



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 2010

Contact: Celso Martinez, 972-623-8836

Inviting EDITH into your homes can save your lives

Thinking ahead and planning ahead can prevent loss of life

PROSPER (October 13, 2010) The Prosper Fire Department wants you to get to know EDITH. Knowing EDITH can save your life, and the lives of your loved ones, according to Assistant Fire Chief Curtis Smith.

“EDITH is actually an acronym that stands for Exit Drills In The Home. It’s one of the most important, if not the most important, acronyms that you will come across, and one that not only needs to be remembered, but one that should be practiced as well,” he said.

Most everyone can remember school fire drills, and how important they were. Teachers were extremely serious during the drills and they expected the students to pay close attention to the commands and especially the pre-determined meeting place, where roll was called and everyone was accounted for.

“EDITH is essentially the same for your home. Families with children should practice EDITH often. In fact, many families encourage the children to participate in EDITH by asking them to draw a map of the home with arrows depicting exit routes. They can even help pick the outdoor gathering spot,” he said.

A map also helps occupants devise escape plans in case one or more of the exits are blocked by fire or smoke. The outdoor gathering place should be far enough from the house to prevent injuries from falling debris or flying embers. And, of course, the gathering place should not impede emergency personnel from fighting the fire or rescuing victims.

“Developing an EDITH is a wonderful way to talk about those things that, during an emergency, will not be on the top of your mind. It helps a family work through topics like going back into a burning home for pets, or staying in the building to use the phone or trying and save valuable items in the house. These are all topics that need to be worked out ahead of time, not during the emergency,” he added.

-more-

There is valuable information about EDITH online, including kid's activities that involve Sparky the Fire Dog and advice on how to develop a home escape plan. Use a search engine to find EDITH and Fire Safety Information.

"EDITH can save lives, invite EDITH into your home today," concluded the Chief.

###

ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 9,000 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 90,000 residents, Prosper's vision is to remain a "Place Where Everyone Matters."