

MYTHS ABOUT FIRE SETTING

- ◆ Children who set fires are pyromaniacs or arsonists.
- ◆ Juveniles who play with or set fires, do so because of an “urge” or “obsession” with fire.
- ◆ Older children light more dangerous and deadly fires.
- ◆ Fire setting is a difficult behavior to treat.
- ◆ Playing with fire is a normal developmental phase for young children.
- ◆ Sharing information about fires and fire safety will encourage playing with fire.

FACTS ABOUT FIRE SETTING

Annual statistics show that children setting fires result in:

- 67,500 fires
- 230 deaths
- 1,800 injuries
- \$235 million in property damage

Over 50% of arson arrests in the United States are juveniles.

The victims of these incidents are often the children themselves.

- 70% of all fatalities in child set fires are children age 5 and under

AGENCY PARTNERS

J-FIRE is offered by the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response in collaboration with the following agencies:

Dutchess County Government:

Behavioral & Community Health
Community & Family Services
District Attorney’s Office
Department of Law
Sheriff’s Office
Probation & Community Corrections

Fire Departments:

Arlington
City of Beacon
City of Poughkeepsie
LaGrange
Fairview

Nonprofits:

Astor Services for Children & Families

Police Departments:

Hyde Park
East Fishkill
Village of Fishkill
City of Poughkeepsie
Town of Poughkeepsie
Village of Rhinebeck
Town of Fishkill

William F.X. O’Neil
County Executive

Dana H. Smith
Emergency Response Commissioner



DUTCHESS COUNTY

**JUVENILE
FIRE SETTER
INTERVENTION
RESPONSE &
EDUCATION**

PROGRAM

**HOTLINE:
(845) 486-3994**



OUR MISSION

Dutchess County J-FIRE provides a comprehensive, non-punitive, multi-disciplinary approach to address the problem of juvenile fire setting through:

- ◆ Early Identification
- ◆ Assessment
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Intervention

The program is a collaborative effort between firefighters, law enforcement, probation officers, and mental health professionals.

Rather than punishing children who use fire, our goal is to improve safety for families.

J-FIRE is available to help youth between ages 3 and 17 who live, attend school, or exhibit fire setting behavior in Dutchess County.

HOW IT WORKS

Sometimes, children start fires out of curiosity, but sometimes it's more than that. Fire is dangerous and children often overestimate their ability to control it.

A single match can destroy a house, a life, a family.

Education is proven to be the most effective way to stop child fire setting.

J-FIRE Intervention Specialists are trained to use an evidence-based assessment to determine the severity of the risk of your child's behavior and their motivation for starting fires. Specialists will help you intervene to keep your child and family safe and help identify and remove potential fire hazards within your home.

Anyone can make a referral!

J-FIRE REFERRALS

For non-emergency referrals:

Hotline: (845) 486-3994

Email: jfire@dutchessny.gov

Include your name, phone number, and the best time to reach you.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Stabilization Center

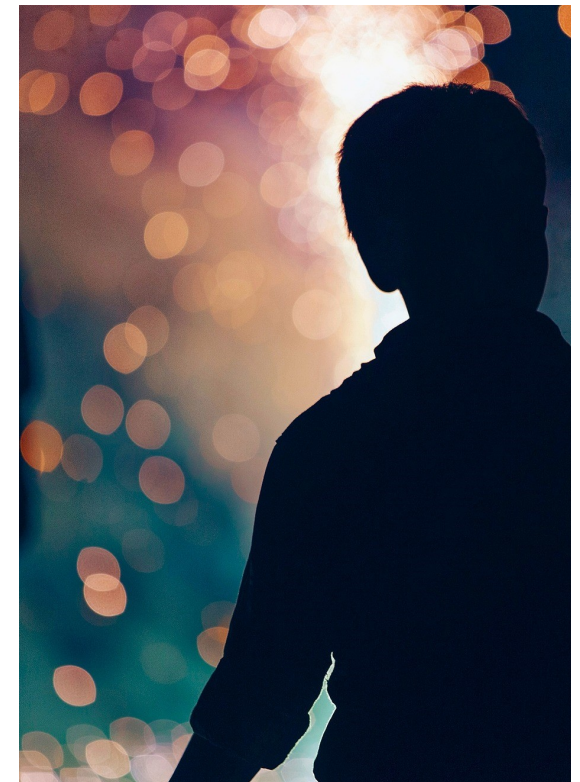
230 North Road, Poughkeepsie
(845)-486-2849

Walk-ins welcome 24/7

HELPLINE

Dial 9-8-8 or Text (845) 485-9700

Available 24/7



DUTCHESS COUNTY J-FIRE

HOTLINE: (845) 486-3994

JFIRE@DUTCHESSNY.GOV