**Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program**

The Decatur Fire Department’s Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program provides a simple risk assessment and fire safety education for the child and the caregiver at no charge. Everything is confidential and intended to help you keep your family safe from fire. Both child and caregiver will learn what they can do to make the home a safer place to live. Statistically, children who set a fire will continue to do so, setting increasingly more dangerous fires. The aim of the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program is to break that cycle.

What is a Juvenile Firesetter and why do they set fires?

* A Juvenile Firesetter is generally a child under the age of 18, who accidentally or purposely starts a fire. Nearly 85 percent of the victims of child set fires are children themselves.

According to the United States Fire Administration, in the United States annually, juvenile fire play is responsible for over:

* 300 Deaths
* 2,000 Injuries
* $300 Million in property damage

Fires involving child curiosity are the leading cause of residential fire related death and injury among children ages 14 and younger. Other causes include:

* Experimentation
* Anger or revenge
* Cries for help
* Times of crisis
* Juvenile delinquency
* Emotional disturbances

The goal of educational intervention is to teach youths about:

* The power of a single match
* The speed of fire and it’s uncontrollability
* The consequences of fire play
* The laws surrounding intentionally set fires
* General home and family fire safety