

Tips for Reducing Local Fire Hazard

Fire trucks can reach a blaze in a matter of minutes in a city, but this is not the case in rural areas. Fire safety experts urge rural residents to take special precautions to eliminate fire hazards, particularly in garages and sheds where gasoline and oil are stored.

Since just one spark can ignite a major fire that could sweep through the house and surrounding buildings, it is most important that everyone in the family think "fire safety" every day.

In most cases families living in rural areas have more equipment and fuel than people in the city, which increases the possibility of fire.

Good housekeeping practices are a "must" in a farm garage or tool room, according to fire safety experts. Large grease or oil spots on the floor, for instance, can feed a fire and give it an opportunity to spread.

All gasoline and kerosene should be kept in galvanized steel fuel cans. Glass jars or open containers are unsafe and could cause a costly blaze.

OILY RAGS and empty gasoline and oil cans should be disposed of as quickly as possible. They may be stored safely in galvanized steel refuse cans, so that sparks from grinding wheels or other tools can't reach the flammable material.

Many people living miles from the fire department have placed fire pails at strategic points in their buildings. Fire pails have rounded

or conical shaped bottoms so that they are distinctive and not readily usable for other chores. When filled with water or sand, galvanized steel fire pails are an effective first line of defense against fire.

Hardboard Is Easily Cleaned

Cleaning and caring for the hardboard paneling in your new home make for easier living.

Walls and ceilings with factory applied finishes are resistant to scuffs and stains of virtually all kinds. Most smudges and dirt can be removed simply with a damp cloth or sponge.

For washing down the panels, if this should eventually become

necessary, use any mild detergent and a damp cloth. It is not necessary to soak the panel.

Stubborn smudges, such as grease or pencil marks which can not be removed with solvents can still be removed without marring prefinished hardboard, by the use of liquid waxes containing cleaning ingredients.

Garbage Can Racks Aid to Sanitation

City sanitation officials, who are he lost.

Working to improve garbage storage and handling procedures, urge in place at all times, officials encourage homeowners and businessmen to phasize. Covered containers pre-build sturdy racks for their garbage and refuse cans.

The racks, which should be at least 18 inches off the ground, can be made from lumber or pipe. At-

each garbage can lids to the rack with chains so that they will not

SANITATION officials point out

that galvanized steel garbage cans are the only approved containers. Other containers have been rejected because they either are too heavy; not strong enough to keep rats out; or burn rapidly when exposed to fire.

The rack should be large enough to accommodate at least three standard cans. Garbage can racks also simplify collection because the

garbage cans are in a central location and easy to pick up and put on the truck. Most racks are located at the rear of the property or adjacent to an alley. More elaborate storage racks, with a screen or cover, can be built near the house.

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Ancient Romans Made Bathing A Public Affair

The ancient Romans may not have been as hygienically minded as today's citizens, but it would certainly seem that they took more and longer baths.

Records show that ancient Rome, at its height, pumped 300 gallons of water per capita, or per body, per day, while Detroit, for instance, today pumps 150 gallons of water for each inhabitant.

PEOPLE TODAY have considerably different bathing habits than the toga-outfitted folks on the Tiber. The Roman baths, many of which were sumptuously luxurious, were public affairs accommodating literally thousands of bathers at any given time.

Athletic events were frequently held at these public baths, and meetings, lectures and poetry-readings were commonplace since the baths served as social centers.

UNLIKE THE Roman citizen, who had to commute to a public bath, and perhaps stand in line for his hot shower, area residents have become increasingly private bath-minded. Many homes, even in the lower priced brackets, feature two or two and a half baths, so that the morning family "line-up" of those waiting to use the bath is fast becoming a thing of the past.

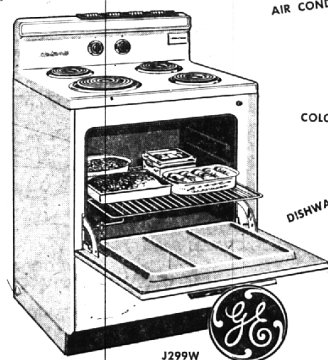
Illusion of Depth Easily Contrived

In the den or dinette of a new house, one wall can be finished in a way that will give the illusion of depth. At the same time, it will be one of the most attractive in the home and is cost will be low.

Have the contractor install Masonite 1/4" Tempered Presdwood, which comes in 4' x 8' panels, over the insulated studs of one wall. To give the illusion of depth, this expense may be painted a jet black. Add interest to this innovation by having vertical 1"x2" wood strips installed on top of the Masonite background at 16-in. intervals, where they can be nailed through the paneling and into the studs. Then have the painter cover them with a gleaming white.

For a small wall—say just six feet long—it would be interesting to use pre-painted narrower wood strips and have them attached at eight-inch intervals. Ones between studs would be fastened with contact cement.

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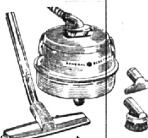
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