



25 March 2009

MFB CALLS FOR FIRE SAFETY DURING EARTH HOUR

The MFB is urging the public to be careful with candles and open flames during Earth Hour this weekend.

Earth Hour is a global climate change initiative which calls on individuals and businesses around the world, to turn off their **nonessential** lights for one hour on Saturday 28 March 2009 at 8.30 pm.

MFB Commander, Community Education, Frank Stockton said that families need to be prepared for the safe use of open flames.

“Candles, oil burners, matches and lighters can all be extremely dangerous if not used safely,” he said.

Commander Stockton recommends that families take the following fire safety precautions during earth hour:

- candles and oil burners should be lit only when they are well away from curtains and open windows
- all open flames should be extinguished before you leave home or retire for the night
- children should never be allowed to have access to matches or lighters
- an adult should be present at all times when a candle or an oil burner is being used
- household smoke alarms should be tested to ensure they are in working order

Visit www.mfb.vic.gov.au for more information about fire safety in the home.

– ENDS –

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