Five ways to keep your building fire safe

Whether you’re a property owner or tenant, make sure you’re aware of these safety rules:

1. **Self-Closing Doors**
   - All residential buildings with 3 or more apartments must have self-closing doors. Ensure apartment door opens from inside without a key and is free of obstructions.

2. **Smoke Alarms**
   - Property owners must provide & install smoke detectors. Detectors should be maintained by the tenant, including testing and replacing batteries.

3. **Fire Escape Plan**
   - Property owners must post plans on the inside of every apartment door, common area, and distribute them to each unit, to new tenants & annually during fire prevention week.

4. **Clear & Unobstructed Exits**
   - Exits must be clear of obstacles on fire escapes, in hallways & by all building entrance doors, including roof doors. Only approved security gates that open without a key may be installed on fire-escape windows or secondary grade level exits.

5. **Stove Knob Covers**
   - Property owners must provide stove knob covers for gas-powered stoves where they know or reasonably should know that a child under the age of six resides. They must also provide stove knob covers to any households that request them.

More Tenant Tips:

- Contact the property owner of your building if your front door doesn’t self-close, you don’t have a functional smoke alarm, obstacles block your exits that aren’t your own, or you don’t have stove knob covers you need. If the issue is not corrected, you can register a complaint with 311.

And remember: it’s illegal to install key-locked window gates on fire escapes & double cylinder locks.