NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS OCTOBER 7–13

The week of October 7—13 is Fire Prevention Week. Attention will be on promoting prevention and fire safety.

Each year thousands are injured due to workplace fires. Being on the look out for potential fire hazards can save your life and the lives of your co-workers. Some potential hazard to watch for are: Poor housekeeping, (such as excessive trash, oily rags, packing materials, or combustible items on the floor or ground.) Frayed electrical cords, over loaded circuits, power equipment that sparks or smokes when in operation, improper discarding of cigarette butts, improper storage of chemicals and the use of paint or other flammables in poorly ventilated areas.

The risks of fires at home are real. Statistics gathered by the U.S. Fire Administration are startling. Every ten seconds, somewhere in the United States there is a home fire. Every 60 seconds, a fire department somewhere is called to a home fire, and annually, 2,600 Americans lose their lives in a fire and 13,000 others are injured.

Fires can start anywhere in the home but fires that start in bedrooms are often caused by poor maintenance of electrical devices, smoking while in bed, improper use of lit candles and/or children playing with matches or lighters. Some things to remember concerning potential hazards can be achieved by following some basic rules: Keep flammables at least 3 feet away from heaters and lit candles; never smoke in bed; do not use electrical appliances or electric blankets with frayed cords; always remember not to overload electrical outlets; have a Fire Evacuation Plan, and conduct drills with your family often; consider purchasing a fire escape ladder if you have a 2-story home; Keep check on your smoke detector batteries and have on hand fire extinguishers that are strategically place throughout your home; and remember to clean and inspect chimneys and furnaces annually.

“Safety Is Key, It Is Up To You
And Me!”

Safety Editor, Olive Finney

“No Accident Today”
A Sad Day at the Beach

Early on Wednesday, September 26, 2012, a 33-foot young adult female humpback whale was found stranded on Wallops Beach. Strandings can occur due to natural causes or as a result of human contact. Unfortunately, the whale had to be euthanized. Preliminary necropsy results indicate the whale had abnormalities in the heart and thoracic cavity.

Wallops worked with the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center Stranding Response Team to keep the whale comfortable, study the whale, and assist with burial of the whale.

Wallop Environmental Management System FY 2013 High Priorities

After reviewing the 2012 High Priority accomplishments and the projected environmental impacts of fiscal year 2013 planned operations and projects, WFF Senior Management approved Wallops Environmental Management System High Priorities on September 27, 2012. The 2013 High Priorities are:

- Water Quality
- Environmental Planning
- Protected Areas and Protected Species
- Sustainability
- Site Restoration

At the core of the Environmental Management System is the Goddard Environmental Policy.

For additional information please visit the Environmental website at http://sites.wff.nasa.gov/code250/