



Fire Loss Prevention

Kitchen Fires

Kitchen fires are a leading cause of property damage. By following a few safety tips, you can prevent most cooking fire incidents:

- Never leave the kitchen unattended when frying, grilling or broiling food.
- Keep all cooking appliances clean and free of spills and grease that may catch fire.
- Always turn the oven and burners off when finished cooking.
- Stay alert and avoid cooking when under the influence of medications or alcohol.
- Prevent burns and stovetop fires by turning pot handles toward the back of the stove and use the rear burners when children are in the kitchen.
- Keep all combustibles including oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels and pot holders away from hot surfaces.
- Avoid overloading electrical outlets with too many kitchen appliances and ensure electrical cords are not frayed, cracked or damaged.

Candle Burning Safety

- Never leave a burning candle unattended and ensure it is out of the way from any possible contact by pets or children.
- Position candles away from flammable objects and materials like curtains, lampshades and plants.
- Never light a candle in a situation in which you might fall asleep before blowing it out.
- Keep candles out of drafty locations.



Clothes Dryer Safety

The leading cause of clothes dryer fires is the failure to clean the appliance, lint filter and vent. With a few simple safety tips, you can help prevent a dryer fire:

- Make sure you clean the lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.
- Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Turn the dryer off if you leave home and when you go to bed.
- As dryers create a lot of heat, keep the area around the dryer clear of boxes, cleaning supplies, clothing, papers or other combustible materials.

Arson Prevention

Most arson fires are started outdoors. Do not make it easy for an arsonist to start a fire or easy for an outdoor fire to spread to other buildings. The following are some preventative tips for you to reduce malicious fires:

- Keep garbage, litter, leaves, firewood, overgrown brush and shrubbery and other combustibles away from buildings.
- Install outdoor lighting, including motion sensor lights on all sides of your building.
- Clean the area of litter and debris.
- Securely store combustibles such as paint, gasoline and oil in proper flammable storage containers in a locked location to restrict access. Minimize the quantity of combustibles in storage and dispose of materials you do not need.
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach and out of sight of children.
- Report suspicious activity to your local fire or police department.

Smoking

Cigarettes and other smoking materials that are not properly extinguished can smolder undetected for days before igniting a fire.

- Do not dispose of smoking materials in planter pots or other inappropriate receptacles.



It is recommended to keep a class ABC general purpose fire extinguisher and inspect it monthly according to the manufacturers instructions.

