PARTNERS IN PREVENTION TIPS FOR FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Always Be Fire Smart! Don’t Get Burned.
The Live Safe Foundation presents you with fire safety tips for Fire Prevention Week:

Fire Prevention Week Awareness
National Fire Protection Association’s message for Fire Prevention Week (October 6 – 12, 2013) is: “Prevent Kitchen Fires.” Cooking is the number one cause of home fires and home fire injuries. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) selected this theme to encourage greater care when cooking and an awareness of kitchen fire dangers, as well as burns. The focus of the message is on educating the public on safe kitchen habits with stoves, microwaves and other appliances. Remaining attentive while cooking and managing how close children and pets are to anything hot will help keep families safe.

Did You Know?
• On average, 160,220 home structure fires involve kitchen equipment each year.
• Each year, roughly 3,000 people die as a result of home fires and burns.
• More than 200,000 individuals are seen in the nation’s emergency rooms for burn injuries.

The most common types of burn injuries result from fire or flame burns, scalds, and contact burns. Besides being painful, burns can result in serious scarring and even death. When we take extra caution in our homes to ensure that the curling iron is out of children’s reach or pot handles are turned away from the edge of the stove, such injuries are entirely preventable.

Cooking Fire Safety Tips
Keeping our homes safe from fire and preventing devastating burn injuries is a healthy change we can make happen. By following these simple safety rules, you can stay fire smart and prevent burns.

• Keep hot foods and liquids away from tables and counter edges so they cannot be pulled or knocked over.
• Have a 3-foot “kid-free” zone around the stove.
• Never hold a child in your arms while preparing hot food or drinking a hot beverage.
• Be careful when using things that get hot such as curling irons, ovens, irons, lamps, and heaters.
• Install tamper-resistant receptacles to prevent a child from sticking an object in the outlet.
• Never leave a child alone in a room with a lit candle, portable heater, lit fireplace or stove, or where a hot appliance might be in use.
• Wear short or close-fitting sleeves when cooking.
• Set your hot water heater temperature no higher than 120 degrees.
• Install anti-scald valves on shower heads and faucets.
• Install and maintain photoelectric smoke alarms. Visit photoelectricsaves.com!

For more safety tips to help protect you against fires, visit www.live-safe.org.
Call ABCO at (800) 875-7200 or visit www.abcofire.com for your fire protection service and supplies.

Information on these Fire Prevention Week tips is presented by:
Learn

Each year across the United States, college students, university students, administrators and staff experience an increasing number of fire-related emergencies, particularly involving unattended cooking. According to the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM), fire fighters respond to fires in college dormitories four times a day, and numerous fires go unreported.

For the nation’s 16 million college students, school is now back in session. Students have moved back into campus residence halls, bringing all the risky behaviors they are known for, leading to a natural increase in cooking fires.

Taking a few minutes to talk about safe cooking greatly reduces the risk of cooking fires. In addition to prevention education, stop-gap engineering solutions exist for both cooking ranges and microwaves that eliminate or reduce cooking fires and nuisance alarms.

Don’t take a chance that someone else has safety covered. Talk to your students about how to be safe when cooking, and talk to your campus-area landlords and local fire-prevention office about installing engineered prevention solutions.

With prevention education and source control, you can have...Confidence in education. Confidence in equipment. Confidence in safety.

Act

Don’t be a statistic. Student safety is our concern! The kitchen of every off-campus residence & campus dorm room contains the ingredients for a dangerous fire. Long the subject of jokes, pouring water on hot grease can be anything but funny.

Spread The Word:

• When in doubt, CALL 911.
• Stand by your pan! Never leave cooking unattended, even for a few minutes. If you leave the kitchen, turn off the stove first.
• Steam can reach 200°F – that’s hot!
• Keep your stove top clean and clear of flammable materials.
• Make sure you know about the specific items prohibited in residence halls related to cooking – hot plates, toasters, grills, crock pots, frying pans and microwaves are sources of cooking fires and not permitted.
• Cover a grease fire with lids & use oven mitts, don’t use water.
• Be careful of grease, spills, loose clothing and clutter. Dispose of hot grease/oil properly.
• Metal objects in microwaves not only damage your microwave, but cause sparks that can quickly turn into a fire.
• Install microwave sensors.
• Conserve energy – unplug electric appliances when they are not in use.
• Be prepared. Learn the proper ways to extinguish cooking fires. Use a K or B rated fire extinguisher. Use of the extinguishers provided by the building owner is the best method.
• Install and maintain photoelectric smoke alarms. Visit photoelectricsaves.com!

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Information on these Fire Prevention Week tips is presented by:
Review Your Plan Of Action At Home Or Office!

The Live Safe Foundation presents you with fire safety tips for Fire Prevention Week:

### Learn Cooking Fire Safety Tips
*Residential*

- Do not leave cooking unattended.
- Unplug cooking equipment when it is not in use.
- Follow the safety instructions on all cooking equipment (along with common sense).
- Clean cooking surfaces thoroughly.
- Keep cooking materials away from curtains or other loose material that could catch fire.
- Smother a grease fire with a lid and use oven mitts, don’t use water.
- Metal objects in microwaves damage your microwave, and also cause sparks that can quickly turn into a fire.
- Install microwave sensors.
- Install and maintain photoelectric smoke alarms. Visit [photoelectricsaves.com](http://photoelectricsaves.com)
- Never smoke in bed. Always look under cushions and in trash cans for burning cigarettes before going to bed.
- Review your plan of action for a fire. Check out: [www.haveanexitstrategy.com](http://www.haveanexitstrategy.com).
- Get out and stay out. Call 911.

### Don’t Become A Statistic:
*Business*

- Most employees surveyed within an organization do not have a fire exit strategy in mind.
- 4 out of 5 employees surveyed are unaware of a designated safe gathering space should a fire or emergency evacuation be necessitated.
- Many deaths occur annually due to victims going back into a burning building & not understanding the ramifications.

### What you should know:

1. Plan, develop and institute an emergency exit plan within your company today.
2. Designate specific “action” responsibilities for appropriate representatives at various emergency exit locations throughout your organization.
3. Pinpoint, communicate & practice a safe gathering space for all employees & communicate throughout your organization.
4. Establish a roster of all on-site employees and take responsibility for headcount in case of an emergency.
5. Educate & practice your emergency action plan. Give detailed monthly instructions as to the procedures, reminders, and precautions should an emergency evacuation occur.

For info on establishing an emergency action plan suitable for your company, please call your ABCO representative at 800-875-7200, or visit our website at [www.abcofire.com](http://www.abcofire.com).

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**Which Extinguisher Should You Buy?**
Fire extinguishers are categorized according to the type of fire they can put out:

- **“A”** type extinguishers work on fuels such as wood, cloth, paper, rubber, and plastics.
- **“B”** type extinguishers work on flammable liquids like gasoline, kerosene, oil, paint, and kitchen grease.
- **“C”** type extinguishers work on electrical fires.

Purchase a multipurpose extinguisher or ABC type, which is designed to work on more than one fuel type. Purchase only those extinguishers tested by an independent laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

**Know How To Operate A Fire Extinguisher**
Remember the acronym **PASS**.

- **P**ull - the locking pin that prevents the handle from moving
- **A**im - at the base of the flames
- **S**queeze - the handle
- **S**weep - back & forth over the burning area with fluid motion

**Know Where To Store An Extinguisher**

- Common storage areas include: garage, workshop, kitchen, near a fireplace or open-flame.
- Store near an exit and in a place with an easily identifiable escape route.
- Know to replace/discard after using.
- Never place a partially empty or empty fire extinguisher back to its original location. Discard appropriately.

**Is your company up to code on safety procedures?**
According to OSHA Guidelines, employees are required to be trained to use fire extinguishers and other safety procedures on an annual basis. To learn more about fire training your team, please visit [www.abcofire.com](http://www.abcofire.com)!

**TRAIN - PROTECT - EDUCATE**

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**TRAIN - PROTECT - EDUCATE**
For more info on our products and services, as well as our workplace and home Fire Training Program, visit [www.abcofire.com](http://www.abcofire.com).
Holiday Kitchen Fire Safety

The Live Safe Foundation presents you with fire safety tips for Fire Prevention Week:

Celebrate The Season With Safety Tips
The holiday season brings us a time of Thanksgiving. It’s a time for family to cook together and share stories around a festive holiday table. It’s also a holiday that seems to revolve around the kitchen, which is usually crowded with guests and activity.

Did You Know?
Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Odds are, someone you know will have a kitchen fire this holiday! Stovetop cooking is the #1 cause of fires in residences and college housing. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of kitchen fires and is the most prevalent cause of nuisance alarms and fire-department responses on college campuses.

Holiday Cooking Safety
In the midst of all the hustle preparing your holiday meal, take some precautionary measures to prevent burns or a kitchen fire.

• Keep the stovetop and oven clean. Built-up grease can ignite when turkey drippings spill over.
• Have a fire extinguisher handy in case of a grease fire.
• Don’t leave food cooking overnight or while you are away in another room. Keep an eye on the stovetop.
• If a fire occurs in your oven, keep the door closed and turn off the oven. By keeping the door closed, you will keep oxygen from fueling the fire and keep you and your guests from any danger of being burned.
• Keep the number of people in your kitchen to a minimum, especially children. Crowded kitchens can cause confusion and result in burns.
• Turn pot handles on the stovetop toward the center of the stove so they are not easily bumped.
• Turkey Fryers can pose real fire dangers. Read all the manufacturer’s directions carefully and never use them on or near a combustible surface.
• Install and maintain photoelectric smoke alarms. Visit photoelectricsaves.com!
• When in doubt, get out. Close any doors behind you and call 9-1-1. Over half of home-cooking injuries occur when victims try to fight the fire themselves.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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