CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY for students

THE CENTER FOR Campus Fire Safety® NFPA

FIRE SAFETY TIPS TO SHARE WITH FRIENDS

PRACTICE KITCHEN FIRE SAFETY

If a fire starts in your stove, toaster oven or microwave, keep the door closed and unplug the unit until the fire burns out. Do NOT use water on a grease fire – it only makes the fire worse and hot oil can splatter and burn you. If you're sleepy or drowsy, don't cook a meal that requires turning on appliances.

KEEP EXITS CLEAR

We get it, there's not a lot of space in your dorm room or apartment but that doesn't mean you should store your bikes or suitcases or whatever in halls and stairwells – and especially NOT in front of exit doors. You need these areas free and clear so you can make a fast escape in case of a fire. If stuff is blocking your exits, you could easily get trapped inside the burning building.

WHEN THE ALARM SOUNDS ... GET OUT

Fire doubles in volume every 30-60 seconds. In just a couple of minutes, an entire room or multiple rooms can be engulfed in flames and smoke. When the fire alarm sounds, get out of the building - FAST and NEVER, no matter what, delay or go back inside the building to get your "things". Ask yourself, is a cell phone or computer more important than your life? No way. You can always buy a new cell phone; but you can't buy your life back.

BE CHOOSY WHERE YOU LIVE

Smoke alarms and sprinkler systems save lives. When it comes time to look for housing, don't choose just ANY place. Check out a number of locations to make sure the room or apartment you want has WORKING smoke detectors installed. If you're looking on-campus, be sure your building has a fire sprinkler system.

RESPECT YOUR SMOKE DETECTOR

Too many fire deaths have occurred when a smoke detector has been disabled. Always LEAVE the batteries in the smoke detector, NEVER undo the cover, and DON'T take the smoke detector off the wall or ceiling. If you do, the detector can't warn you about a potential fire.

Stay Safe & Graduate

Fire Safety Outreach provided by:

The Center for Campus Fire Safety Student Committee and the National Fire Protection Association

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USE FLAMELESS CANDLES

Candles are one of the leading causes of fire in campus housing. Because of this, most colleges and universities won't allow them in dorms. If you want to use candles off-campus try FLAMELESS candles. They're cheap, scented and come in a million shapes and colors. Buy them online or at your nearest Walmart, Target or pharmacy store.

BE 'POWER SAFE'

When you overload extension cords, power strips or outlets, you are also overloading the circuit, causing it to heat up and catch fire. And don't even THINK about using a two-prong plug in a three-hole slot either, which not only can cause a fire, but can give you an electrical shock. Play it safe and use only the required number of slots in an outlet or power strip.

CLEAN DRYER LINT

Clothes dryers cause hundreds of injuries and too many deaths each year. It sounds silly but by cleaning the lint holder after every load, you reduce the chance lint can catch on fire.

STICK TO RECOMMENDED WATTAGE ON LIGHT BULBS

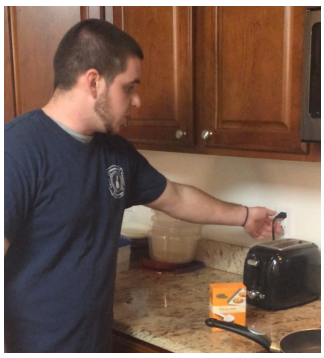
When it comes to lamps, use light bulbs with the correct wattage. Replacing a bulb that has too-high a wattage, like using a 100-watt bulb in a 60-watt fixture, can cause intense heat, melt the light socket and insulation on the fixture's wires and cause a fire.

DON'T COVER YOUR LAMP WITH A SCARF

Covering lamps with a scarf might look nice and create a great atmosphere in your room, but it's also a huge fire problem. Put your hand over a lamp shade and feel the heat coming from the bulb. Now imagine a scarf resting on the lampshade. Keep all materials that can catch fire away from your lamps. If you're looking for ambiance, check out our tip about flameless candles.

TURN OFF APPLIANCES

When you leave a room or apartment, ALWAYS turn off the stove, iron, curling irons and other appliances. Leaving these things "on" causes the appliance to overheat and spark a fire. Taking a couple seconds to hit the "off" switch will help keep your apartment and dorm room free of fire, and save your life and the life of your friends.



Friends keep friends safe from fire-related hazards.

Share!
Pass fire safety tips along to friends!

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