



A home fire can be one of the most devastating disasters. Leading causes of home fires are cooking, smoking materials, heating, and electrical. Take these steps now to protect your home and family.

Kitchen

1. Never leave your stove unattended while cooking.
2. Keep an all-purpose (one rated for grease and electrical fires) fire extinguisher in your kitchen near your stove.
3. Don't store anything flammable near stoves, ovens, or other heating appliances.
4. Don't pour water on an oil/grease fire. Instead, cover the pan with a lid and turn off the stove.
5. If a fire occurs in the oven, close the oven door, and turn off the oven.
6. Don't operate your microwave without any food inside.
7. Clean the exhaust hood and the duct over the stove monthly.

Candles

1. Never leave a candle unattended.
2. Use sturdy candleholders that won't fall over or burn.
3. Only burn candles on sturdy, uncluttered surfaces.

Portable Heaters

1. Make sure someone is always in the room when using a portable heater and that it will automatically shut off if tipped over.
2. Keep children away from portable heaters.
3. Keep portable heaters at least 3 ½ feet away from anything in the room.

Fireplace

1. Put the fire out before you go to sleep or leave the house.
2. Dispose of materials used to light or fuel the fire in non-flammable containers.
3. Don't store anything flammable near the fireplace.
4. Install a chimney spark arrestor cap to prevent roof fires.
5. Have your chimney cleaned and inspected every year.

Clothes Dryer

1. Clean the lint screen after each load.
2. Never leave your home with the clothes dryer running.
3. Dryers must be vented outside and not within a wall or attic.
4. Make sure all pockets in clothing are clear of any synthetic material, plastic, or rubber.