



KITCHEN SAFETY

Nearly nine out of ten fire deaths occur at home, and the NFPA has found that safety in the kitchen is key in preventing home fires. Adults over age 65 are at greatest risk of dying in a home fire, followed by children age four and under. Home fires are more likely to occur during the winter months, especially during the holidays. So why do cooking fires happen? Frequently it's because people leave cooking food unattended on the stove. Often the fire starts within the first 15 minutes of cooking, showing that there is no safe period of time to leave cooking unattended.

Did You Know ???

- ❖ Approximately 30% of home fires start in the kitchen.
- ❖ Accidentally turning on/off cooking equipment and the heat source being too close to combustibles are also frequently cited reasons for kitchen fires.
- ❖ Three-fifths (57%) of reported home cooking fire injuries occurred when victims tried to fight the fire themselves.
- ❖ Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires.

How to Prevent Cooking Fires

- Never leave cooking unattended
- Do not use a stove or oven to heat a house
- Keep combustibles away from cooking surface
- Keep cooking surface clean and free from grease build up
- Wear short, close fitting, tightly rolled sleeves when cooking
- Make sure all small appliances are turned off prior to sleeping or leaving home

What to do In Case of a Cooking Fire

- Keep Calm!
- Turn off the stove, oven, microwave or other equipment involved in the fire.
- In case of a stove fire: Turn off the stove, carefully slide lid onto pan.
- Do not remove any pan lid until it is completely cool.
- In case of oven fire: Turn off and do not open the oven door.
- In case of microwave fire: Do not open the door, unplug the microwave.
- Baking soda can be used to smother a fire.
- Never use flour to smother a fire- Call 911!
- Always maintain a three-foot "Kid Free-Pet Free Zone" around the cooking area.



For More Information
www.usfa.dhs.gov
www.nfpa.org

