

FIRE SAFETY AND PROTECTION

The dangers of fire include smoke inhalation, burns and potential death. It is important to know what to do to prevent a fire, and what to do in case fire starts.

Be Prepared

Plan ahead so if a fire does occur, you and everyone else in the building know what to do.

- Sound the alarm immediately, and yell “FIRE!” repeatedly.
- Fire spreads quickly, so exit the building immediately, do not bother gathering valuables or even putting on clothing: just get out NOW!
- Stay low to the ground even if there is not considerable smoke. Building fires can easily generate noxious fumes that can be very damaging and/or deadly with just one breath.
- Feel any closed doors before opening them: if they are hot, find another way out.
- If your clothes catch on fire, stop – drop – and roll until the flames are out.
- Once you are away from danger, dial 911.
- Assemble at the predetermined meeting site and wait for help.

Be Preventative

- Sleep with doors closed. This will keep out deadly smoke giving you more time to escape in case of fire.
- Make sure all smoke detectors are active.
- Make sure all fire extinguishers are charged and are of the proper type.
- Make sure you have two routes of escape in case of fire. Know the routes to safety.
- Know how to use fire escape ladders.
- Know how to use fire extinguishers.
- Never smoke in bed, on the sofa, or when sleepy. Falling asleep while smoking is the leading cause of fire related deaths in America.
- Never place a space heater within 3 feet of anything that may burn.
- If an appliance generates a funny smell, turn it off and get it repaired.
- Be careful when cooking: keep cooking areas clear of combustibles. Keep pot handles turned inward so they cannot accidentally be knocked when walking past. Keep grease and oils away from open flames and always keep stovetops and ovens clean.