



Cooking Safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity, and can be relaxing. But did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries? The Apartment Association of Fort Wayne, the Fort Wayne Fire Department, and the U. S. Fire Administration what you to know that by following a few safety tips you can prevent these fires.

“Cook with Caution”

- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

IF You Have A Cooking Fire...

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number after you leave.
- If you try to fight the fire, be sure others are getting out and you have a clear way out.
- Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

Cooking and Kids

- Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried. Teach your kids that the kitchen is not a play area.

FACTS

- The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking!
- Most cooking fires in the home involve the stovetop!
- The leading cause of unintentional burns occur while cooking!

For More Information Contact:

The U. S. Fire Administration
301-447-1000
www.usfa.dhs.gov



Fort Wayne Fire Department
Safety Education
260-427-1483; 427-1368; 427-5179
www.fortwaynefiredepartment.org