



Risk Management Services

FIRE PREVENTION TIPS FOR THREE LEADING CAUSES OF RESIDENTIAL FIRES

Cooking:

- Always be present when cooking – most kitchen fires occur when cooking is unattended
 - Remain in the kitchen when frying, grilling, or broiling
 - Remain in your home or unit when cooking in other ways like baking or boiling - check regularly
- Keep items that can catch fire at least three feet away from cooking surfaces
- Never cook while tired or under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Utilize the proper method to extinguish a grease fire, should one start:
 - Smother grease fires with a lid or wet towel, or cover with baking soda
 - NEVER use water
 - Turn off heat source and let cool
 - If fire is too large to safely extinguish, evacuate and call the fire department
- In the interest of child safety and fire prevention, keep children at least three feet away from cooking surfaces



Electrical Issues:

- Use electrical devices that are in good working order and have been listed by a recognized testing lab (e.g. Underwriter's Laboratories [UL])
- Do not overload circuits
- Extension cords should only be used for temporary power, not permanent installations
- Make sure extension cords are in good condition (e.g. not cut or frayed)
- Contact a qualified electrician if the electrical system operates abnormally (e.g. dimming or flickering lights, frequently blowing fuses, or breakers frequently tripping)

Smoking:

- Avoid smoking indoors, even if permitted to do so
- If smoking outdoors, keep away from items that can catch fire (e.g. dried mulch, leaves, or trash)
- Dispose of ash and butts properly
 - Utilize a non-combustible receptacle made for this purpose
 - Ensure that ash and butts are fully extinguished and cool before placing in trash
- Do not smoke while tired or under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- NEVER smoke while using or in the vicinity of medical oxygen



Leading causes according to PHLIY claims statistics from 2012 – 2015

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