



MACOMB TOWNSHIP *Michigan*

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY TIPS

November 2017

Cooking Fire Safety

With an average of 455 daily fires, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries according to NFPA's Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment Report & NFIRS data.

THANKSGIVING LEADS THE YEAR IN COOKING FIRES

Although a mighty delicious tradition, deep-frying a turkey on Thanksgiving can be risky. Every year deep-fryer fires are responsible for five deaths, 60 injuries, the destruction of 900 homes, and more than \$15-million in property damage, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

In 2015, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 1,760 home cooking fires on Thanksgiving, the peak day for such fires. Unattended cooking was by far the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths.

Did you know...



U.S. fire departments respond to an average of **166,100** home fires per year involving cooking equipment.

Thanksgiving is the leading day for home fires involving cooking equipment, with 4 times the average number!



2/3 of American households cook at least one hot meal per day.



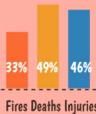
Contributing Factors

Ranges or cook-tops account for almost **3 of every 5** reported home fires involving cooking equipment. Ovens account for 13%.



Unattended cooking

is a contributing factor in 33% of home fires related to cooking equipment, 49% of the associated deaths and 46% of the associated injuries.



Something that could catch fire was **too close** to the equipment in 10% of cooking fires and 23% of deaths.

Trends among those injured or killed



55% of civilians injured in home fires involving cooking equipment were hurt while attempting to fight the fire themselves.

Adults aged **65 or over** faced a higher risk of cooking fire death than other age groups.



Children under 5 were more likely to be hurt by touching hot cooking equipment or scalded by hot liquids than by actual fire.



NFPA continues to believe that turkey fryers that use cooking oil, as currently designed, are not suitable for safe use by even a well-informed and careful consumer. These turkey fryers use a substantial quantity of cooking oil at high temperatures and units currently available for home use pose a significant danger that hot oil will be released at some point during the cooking process. In addition, the burners that heat the oil can ignite spilled oil. The use of turkey fryers by consumers can lead to devastating burns, other injuries, and the destruction of property. NFPA urges those who prefer fried turkey to seek out professional establishments, such as grocery stores, specialty food retailers, and restaurants, for the preparation of the dish, or consider a new type of "oil-less" turkey fryer."

Learn how to reduce the risk of a cooking fire in your home by visiting www.nfpa.org/cooking



Free Offer



MACOMB TWP. FIRE DEPT. HAS FREE SMOKE ALARMS AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS.

Contact us at 586-949-2138 to inquire, or email us at

fireprevention@macomb-mi.gov



OVEN FIRES: How to prevent them and what to do

Oven fires are usually preventable. Here are 2 common causes and tips on avoiding an oven fire in your kitchen:

1. Cleanliness: Built up grease and oil on an oven can catch fire. Clean your oven on a regular basis.

2. Forgetfulness: With today's busy schedules, technology "multi-tasking" and all the other distractions around the home, it can be all too easy to forget about your cooking in the oven. Set timers and **KEEP AN EYE** on your oven when in use.

What if you do have a fire in your oven?

First, stay calm and keep the oven door shut. Do not open the door, as doing so will feed additional oxygen to the fire. If you are not trained to fight the fire with an extinguisher, evacuate and dial 911 to dispatch the Fire Department. Never carry burning items away.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Often called the "Silent Killer", Carbon Monoxide is an odorless, colorless and tasteless gas that is produced by combustion, including the combustion of natural gas in dryers, water heaters and furnaces.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms are easy to install and can save lives. Carbon Monoxide Detectors do not take the place of smoke alarms, and you should have each in your home.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors are available at your local home goods store. Contact us with any questions: fireprevention@macomb-mi.gov

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) POISONING



Fireplaces

Fireplaces should be inspected annually and professionally cleaned when needed. Creosote (a sticky and combustible substance) builds up on the walls of the fireplace and chimney and can catch fire when too much has built up.

Keep anything that could burn at least 3 feet from the fireplace.

Always remember to open the flue when burning in your fireplace to avoid carbon monoxide build-up in the home.



Before and after professional fireplace cleaning

Thanksgiving Safety

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.



- » Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- » Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- » Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- » Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- » Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- » Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- » Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- » Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- » Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- » Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

Did you know?



Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

Have activities that keep kids out of the kitchen during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done outside the kitchen.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

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