

Fire Safety Tips

The tips presented here are provided for information purposes only and do not constitute legal advice or eliminate the risk of fire.

BEHAVIOR

- Poor judgment and carelessness of tenants and their guests are the cause of most off-campus housing fires in Oxford.
- When you have a party at your residence, please be responsible and be aware of the actions of yourself, fellow housemates, AND guests.

SMOKE DETECTORS

- All rental properties shall be equipped with a smoke detector in every room used for sleeping (OCO Section PM-308.1).
- Test detectors every month, following the manufacturer's directions, and replace batteries once a year, or whenever a detector "chirps" to signal low battery power.
- **Never DISABLE a smoke detector by removing its battery.** Never "borrow" a smoke detector's battery for another use - a disabled detector can't save your life.



SMOKING AND SAFETY

Smoking is NEVER permitted in our rental properties, OR ON PORCHES, per your lease agreement for property damage reasons and for the following safety reasons:

- Careless smoking is the leading cause of fire deaths in North America.
- Smoking in bed or when drowsy, medicated, or intoxicated could be deadly.
- Unattended smoking material can easily burn items such as mattresses, bedding, upholstered furniture (couch), draperies, etc. Smoldering material under pillows and cushions can easily go undetected.
- Cigarette butts must be soaked in water in order to properly dispose of them.
- Unattended candles can also start a fire, therefore they also are not permitted in our rental properties per your lease agreement.



HOW TO USE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER

- All rental units shall be supplied with a fire extinguisher in or near the kitchen.
- Pull the pin and aim the extinguisher nozzle at the base of the flames.
- Squeeze the trigger while holding the extinguisher upright.
- Sweep the extinguisher from side to side to cover the area of the fire.



COOKING SAFETY

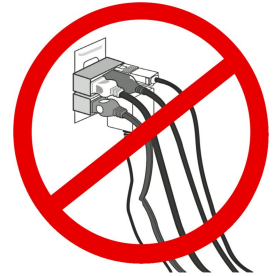
- Never leave cooking unattended. Keep a close eye on food on the stovetop and in the oven.
- Keep cooking areas clear of combustibles (pot holders, rags, curtains, towels, etc.)
- Wear clothes with short, rolled-up or tight-fitting sleeves when you cook.
- Turn pot handles inward on the stove where you can't bump them.
- If grease catches fire in a pan, slide a lid over the pan to smother the flames and turn off the heat. Leave the lid on until cool.
- NEVER throw water on steaming or burning grease. Use baking soda.
- **Keep grills at least 15 feet away from the property (AND TREES)** when in use AND until completely cooled.



- CALL 911 FOR ANY FIRE, NO MATTER HOW SMALL EVEN IF YOU WERE ABLE TO PUT IT OUT!

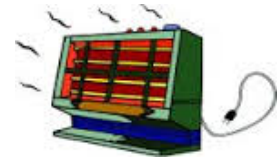
USE ELECTRICITY AND APPLIANCES SAFELY

- Do not overload **extension cords** or run them under rugs or doors. Do not connect multiple extension chords together.
- Plug all **computer** and **television** equipment into a surge protector.
- If an **electrical appliance** smokes or has an unusual smell, unplug it immediately, then have it serviced before using it again.
- Replace any electrical cord that is cracked or frayed.
- Don't tamper with your **fuse box** or use improper-size fuses.
- Always clean the **clothes dryer** lint filter after each load.
- Use the correct type and wattage of light bulbs for each fixture. For example, recessed type bulbs should only be used in recessed lighting fixtures.



SPACE HEATERS – can be very dangerous and are not recommended but if used;

- Keep portable heaters and space heaters at least 3 feet from everything.
- Never leave heaters on when you leave a room or go to bed.



WHEN NOT TO FIGHT A FIRE

- If the fire is spreading beyond the spot where it started and/or it's blocking your escape.
- If you can't fight the fire with the proper equipment.
- Never Fight put yourself in danger
- Always have someone call 911 immediately so help comes fast.

