



## FIRE SAFETY TIPS FOR ADULTS

### Cooking with Care

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period time, turn off the stove.
- Keep anything that can catch fire – potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper, or plastic bags – away from your stovetop.
- Wear short, close fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire.
- Always keep an oven mitt and lid handy. If a small fire starts in a pan on the stove, put on the oven mitt and smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan. Turn off the burner. Don't remove the lid until it is completely cool.

### Everyday Electrical Safety

- Keep lamps, light fixtures, and light bulbs away from anything that can burn, such as lamp shades, bedding, curtains, and clothing.
- Replace cracked and damaged electrical cords.
- Use extension cords for temporary wiring only. Consider having additional circuits or receptacles added by a qualified electrician.
- Homes with young children should have tamper-resistant electrical receptacles.
- Call a qualified electrician or landlord if you have recurring problems with blowing fuses or tripping circuit breakers, discolored or warm wall outlets, flickering lights or a burning/rubbery smell coming from an appliance.

### Healthy Heating

- Install and maintain carbon monoxide alarms to avoid risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Keep all things that can burn, such as paper, bedding or furniture, at least 3 feet away from heating equipment.
- Turn portable space heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.
- An oven should not be used to heat a home.

### Strike Out Smoking Materials Fires

- If you smoke, choose fire-safe cigarettes if they are available in your area.
- If you smoke, smoke outside.
- Wherever you smoke, use deep, sturdy ashtrays.
- Never smoke in a home where oxygen is used.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet, out of the reach of children.

## Candle with Caution

- Keep candles at least 12 inches from anything that can burn.
- Use sturdy, safe candleholders.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended. Blow out candles when you leave a room.
- Avoid using candles in bedrooms and sleeping areas.
- Use flashlights for emergency lighting.

## Safety 101

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home. For the best protection, interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month pushing the test button.
- Install a new battery in all smoke alarms at least once a year. Immediately install a new battery if an alarm “chirps”, warning the battery is low.
- Replace all smoke alarms, including alarms that use long-life 10 year non-replaceable batteries and hard-wired alarms, when they are 10 years old or sooner if they do not respond properly. If possible, consider replacement with a dual-sensor smoke alarm model and a 10-year lithium smoke alarm battery.\*
- Make sure everyone can hear the sound of the smoke alarms. Smoke alarms are available with devices made for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. The devices use strobe lights.
- Have a home fire escape plan. Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible, and a meeting place outside. Practice your escape plan twice a year.
- When the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out.
- If you are building or remodeling your home, consider a residential fire sprinkler system.

\* **Ionization** sensing alarms may detect invisible fire particles (associated with fast flaming fires) sooner than Photoelectric alarms. **Photoelectric** sensing alarms may detect visible fire particles (associated with slow smoldering fires) sooner than Ionization alarms. **Studies show both types will effectively detect either type of fire. For optimal protection, install both smoke alarm technologies in your home in order to maximize the chances of escape.**