



## BARBECUE SAFETY

### **IN CASE OF FIRE, DIAL 911**

- PROPANE grill fires: Turn off the burners and tank valve, if you can safely. If the fire involves the tank, leave it alone and evacuate immediately.
- CHARCOAL grill fires: Close the grill lid.
- ELECTRIC grill fires: Disconnect the power.
- NEVER attempt to extinguish a grease fire with water. Water will cause the flames to flare up. Use a portable fire extinguisher or baking soda.



## General Safety Tips

- Set your barbecue up at least 10 feet away from buildings.
- Have a fire extinguisher or a garden hose nearby.
- Never use a barbecue inside the house, garage, or other enclosed area.
- Never leave the grill unattended.
- Never move a hot grill.
- Make sure a gas grill's hose connection is tight. If you suspect a leak, apply soapy water to the hoses and watch for bubbles.
- Clean the tubes that lead into the burner.
- Do not use natural gas as fuel in a grill that is designed for propane. Do not use propane as fuel in a grill that is designed for natural gas.
- Do not start a propane grill with the lid closed. Gas can accumulate and explode.
- Only use barbecue starter fluid to start a charcoal grill. Do not use gasoline or other flammable liquids.
- Do not wear loose, flowing clothing when barbecuing.
- Use long handled barbecue tools and flame resistant mitts.
- Keep physical activities or games away from the grill when it is in use or still hot.
- Always follow the manufacturer's guidelines for cleaning and storing the grill. Keep it free of grease buildup.
- Always shut off the propane at the grill and at the bottle when you finish barbecuing.
- Do not remove ashes from your charcoal grill until they completely cooled.
- If you use water to douse coals, keep the damp coals in a well ventilated area. Spontaneous combustion can occur in confined areas.



## CANDLE SAFETY

- Make sure the candles are blown out before leaving the room or going to bed.
- Never leave a candle burning when you go to bed
- Keep candles away from anything that can burn.
- Always use metal, glass or ceramic candleholders that cannot burn. Do not use wood or plastic candleholders.
- Keep lit candles out of reach of children and pets,
- Don't place candles on windowsills or near drafts.
- Avoid buying candles that have combustibles embedded in or around them.
- Keep candlewicks trimmed to one-quarter inch.





## CLOTHES DRYER FIRE SAFETY

- Always follow manufacturer's instructions.
- Clean lint traps before or after drying each load of clothes
- Clean out exhaust vents and ducts regularly. Lint build up can cause the dryer to overheat.
- To reduce lint buildup and optimize airflow, use a smooth all-metal dryer vent/duct. Vinyl, plastic or foil vent/duct materials are not recommended
- If you notice clothes are taking longer than normal to dry, there may be lint buildup in the vent/duct system. Clean the vent/duct thoroughly
- Do not dry clothing or fabric that has anything flammable on it, such as alcohol, cooking oil, gasoline, spot removers, dry-cleaning solvent, etc.





## COOKING SAFETY

### If a fire starts while you are cooking

- Turn off the burner if you can do so without burning yourself.
- Never throw water on a grease fire. Use a fire extinguisher or pour baking soda on the fire. Put a lid on the pan if possible.
- If your clothes catch fire, **STOP, DROP AND ROLL.**
- If the fire is growing, evacuate and call 911. **WHEN IN DOUBT, GET OUT.**
- Install a smoke alarm in every bedroom and on every level of your home.

### Cooking safety tips

- Keep flammable items far away from the stove, including dish towels, pot holders, curtains, etc.
- Do not store flammable items in the range storage drawer.
- Never leave food cooking on the stovetop unattended. Keep a close eye on food cooking in the oven.
- Double-check the kitchen before you go to bed or leave the house. Make sure all appliances are turned off.
- Do not cook if you are drowsy or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Do not wear loose-fitting clothing and roll up your sleeves.
- Clean cooking equipment regularly. Built up grease can cause a fire.
- Keep children and pets away from cooking areas. Maintain a 3 foot "kid free zone" around the stove.
- Turn pot handles inward to avoid spills. Use a potholder when reaching for handles.
- Heat oil gradually to avoid getting burned by splattering grease. Use extra caution when preparing deep-fried foods.
- Never use the range or oven to heat your home. It is a fire hazard and may release toxic fumes into your home.





## FIREPLACE SAFETY TIPS

- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned every year.
- Only burn well-season, dry wood in your fireplace. Do not burn Christmas trees, treated wood, plastics, paper or trash.
- Do not use flammable liquids to start a fire in your fire place.
- Use a fireplace screen on the inside opening
- Keep the hearth area clear
- Do not leave a fire unattended
- Keep tree branches clear of the chimney. Minimum recommended clearance = 15 feet.
- Install a spark arrester on the top of the chimney flue.
- Install carbon monoxide and smoke detectors in your home and test them frequently





## HEATER SAFETY

- Select a heater that is UL approved.
- The heater should automatically shut off if it tips over (tip over feature.)
- The heater should have a working thermostat.
- The heater should have a guard over the heating element, such as wire cage.
- Plug the heater directly into a wall outlet. Extension cords can become overheated and start a fire.
- Check the heater's electric cord for damage before plugging it into the outlet. If the cord is frayed or cracked, do not use the heater. If the cord gets hot after you plug it in, unplug it immediately and do not use the heater.
- Keep the heater at least 36 inches away from anything that can catch fire, such as curtains, blankets, furniture, clothing, paper, etc.
- Vacuum lint or dust out of the heater. A dirty heater can overheat and cause a fire. Make sure to unplug the heater before vacuuming.
- Turn off the heater when you are sleeping or if you leave the house.
- Children or pets should not be left alone in the house when the heater is on. Make sure an adult is present when the heater is being used.
- Do not hang clothes or other items over the heater to dry.
- Keep heaters out of halls, doorways, or other areas where people walk.
- Do not use kerosene heaters inside your home. They can flare up or emit poisonous fumes. They are not approved for home use by the State of Oregon.
- Make sure you have working smoke detectors in your home and test them frequently.



## HOLIDAY SAFETY - Christmas trees

- Choose artificial trees that are labeled or certified as fire retardant.
- Choose natural trees that are fresh, with green needles that do not fall when touched.
- Cut 1" - 2" from the base of the trunk before placing in tree stand.
- Keep the tree at least 3 feet away from heat sources such as fireplaces, radiators, candles, lights, or heat vents.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand daily.
- Use tree lights that are tested independent testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratories.
- Choose the correct lights for indoor or outdoor use. The lights should be labeled.
- Replace strings of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections.
- Connect no more than three strands of mini string sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.
- Get rid of the tree when it begins dropping needles.
- Dried trees should not be left inside the home or garage or placed outside against the home. Find out if your community or local Boy Scout troupe offers a recycling program.
- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards.





## HOLIDAY SAFETY - TURKEY FRYER FIRES

- Turkey fryers should always be used outdoors, away from buildings and flammable materials.
- Never use turkey fryers in a garage or on a wooden deck.
- Make sure the fryers are on a flat surface to reduce accidental tipping.
- Never leave the fryer unattended.
- Never let children or pets near the fryer even if it is not in use. The oil inside the cooking pot can remain dangerously hot hours after use.
- To avoid oil spillover, do not overfill the fryer.
- Use well-insulated potholders/oven mitts. If possible, wear safety goggles to protect your eyes from oil splatter.
- Make sure the turkey is completely thawed. Be careful with marinades. Mixing oil and water may cause a fire or even an explosion.
- The National Turkey Federation (NTF) recommends thawing the turkey in the refrigerator approximately 24 hours for every five pounds in weight.
- Keep a fire extinguisher nearby. Never use water to extinguish a grease fire.



### Public Education Videos

Underwriters Laboratories (UL)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yObDuYTFudY>

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=URy9Xw92OZk>

Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYvMWlvghnQ>

State Farm Insurance

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETBD0EqQGoU>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQYTMFCLy5E>