



WAYNESBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION and LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION
E-BULLETIN

November/ December 2009



November and December are the holiday months for gathering with family and friends for food, gifts, and fellowship. This is also a time when fire can strike, especially cooking fires. The following is from the U.S. Fire Administration with tips to be safe this holiday season. Christmas trees and lights can cause a hazard, so use caution on how you light trees and homes. Have a happy and safe holiday season from the Waynesboro Fire Department.

Choose the Right Equipment and Use It Properly

Always use cooking equipment tested and approved by a recognized testing facility.

Follow manufacturers' instructions and code requirements when installing and operating cooking equipment.

Plug microwave ovens and other cooking appliances directly into an outlet. Never use an extension cord for a cooking appliance, as it can overload the circuit and cause a fire.

Watch What You Heat

The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.

Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.

If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you're cooking.

Stay alert! To prevent cooking fires, you have to be alert. You won't be if you are sleepy, have been drinking alcohol, or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy.

Keep Things That Can Catch Fire and Heat Sources Apart

Keep anything that can catch fire - potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, food packaging, towels, or curtains - away from your stovetop.

Keep the stovetop, burners, and oven clean.

Keep pets off cooking surfaces and nearby countertops to prevent them from knocking things onto the burner.

Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire if it comes into contact with a gas flame or electric burner.



November 1, 2009 Daylight savings time ends. So if you change your clocks before you go to bed or at 2 am, remember this, change your clocks, change your batteries. Put new batteries in your smoke detector(s). The Waynesboro Fire Department encourages everyone to have a working smoke detector on every level of their homes. For more information contact us at (540) 942-6730. Waynesboro Fire Department installs smoke detectors free to the residents of the City of Waynesboro.
