

# COOKING FIRE SAFETY



Fires and fire alarm activations can be caused by individuals using any type of cooking appliance, which includes: stoves, ovens, microwave ovens, toaster ovens, rice cookers, crock pots etc.

**YOU can help prevent fires and fire alarm activations caused by cooking by following these fire safety prevention tips.**

- **NEVER LEAVE COOKING UNATTENDED**
  - If you have to leave the stove, microwave or other cooking appliance for any reason turn the appliance off.
- **TURN HANDLES TO THE CENTER OF THE STOVE TO PREVENT ACCIDENTAL SPILLS**
- **HAVE A LID HANDY TO SMOTHER A PAN FIRE**
- **USE APPROVED POT HOLDERS, NOT APRONS OR TOWELS**
- **ALWAYS TURN ON THE RANGE EXHAUST FAN**
- **AVOID GREASE BUILDUP ON APPLIANCES AND SURROUNDING SURFACES**
  - Clean appliances regularly. Watch for grease overflows that can start fires.
- **DON'T PLACE TOWELS, NAPKINS OR OTHER PAPER PRODUCTS AROUND THE STOVE SURFACE**
- **DON'T WEAR LOOSE CLOTHING OR CLOTHING WITH FLOPPY SLEEVES**
- **IF YOU HAVE A SELF-CLEANING OVEN, KNOW HOW TO OPERATE IT SAFELY**
- **IF YOU HAVE A GREASE OR OTHER COOKING RELATED FIRE:**
  - **NEVER TRY TO MOVE OR CARRY A PAN THAT IS ON FIRE** (It is a common reaction to move or throw a burning pan into a sink. This often results in serious burns to individuals and can spread the fire)
  - Carefully turn the heat off and place a cover over the pan. Do not remove the lid until the pan has cooled down
  - Never use water on a grease fire. It will cause the fire to spread.
  - If the fire is small you may be able to extinguish it with the use of baking soda (Bicarbonate of soda). **NEVER** use baking powder, flour, starch or sugar.
  - If possible use an approved portable fire extinguisher to extinguish the fire.
- **KNOW HOW TO CORRECTLY USE YOUR FIRE EXTINGUISHER**
- **CALL 911 TO REPORT A FIRE EMERGENCY**