

Fire Safety: Tips



Mother Nature has a way of reminding us of how fragile life really is, just this week a lightning strike started an attic fire in officers' quarters. No one was injured and damage was limited by prompt reporting to 911 and following proper procedures. Practicing awareness, preparation and prevention at work and home help reduce accidental fire dangers. Keep the following general fire safety tips in mind and enjoy the coming summer fire free:

- **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.
- **Wear short, close-fitting** or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and can catch fire if it comes in contact with a gas flame or electric burner.
- **Have a "kid-free zone"** of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.
- **Open micro-waved food slowly**, away from the face. Hot steam from a container of micro-waved food or the food itself can cause burns.
- **Never burn a candle** on or near anything that can catch fire. Keep burning candles away from furniture, drapes, bedding, carpets, books, paper, flammable decorations, etc.
- **Never disconnect your smoke detector**, even if it becomes a nuisance. Clean by vacuuming or replace the detector as needed. Test the smoke detector by pushing and holding the test button.
- **Plan and practice an escape** twice a year with entire family, preferably one drill at night. Make sure your family meets at one location, such as a neighbor's home or other pre-designated location, safely away from the home and from access that would be used by fire trucks.
- **Never start a propane grill** with the lid closed. Gas can accumulate and when the grill is ignited may cause an explosion.
- **With charcoal grills**, only use charcoal starter fluids designed for barbecue grills and do not add fluid after coals have been lit.
- **Handle gas carefully**. Never fill gasoline tanks while machinery is on or when equipment is still hot. Wipe up spills. Store gas in an approved container away from the house. Finally, never smoke or use any type of flame around gasoline or any gasoline-powered equipment.

Mission first, people always! Keep Fort Knox Fire Safe: If you have any questions or would like to schedule a courtesy inspection of your work area or quarters, please contact the Fort Knox Fire Prevention Office at 624-4208/6016 or e-mail. Visit us on Facebook. knox.fire.prevention@conus.army.mil
<http://www.facebook.com/Fort.Knox.FD>

Think Green! Unplug small appliances when not in use.