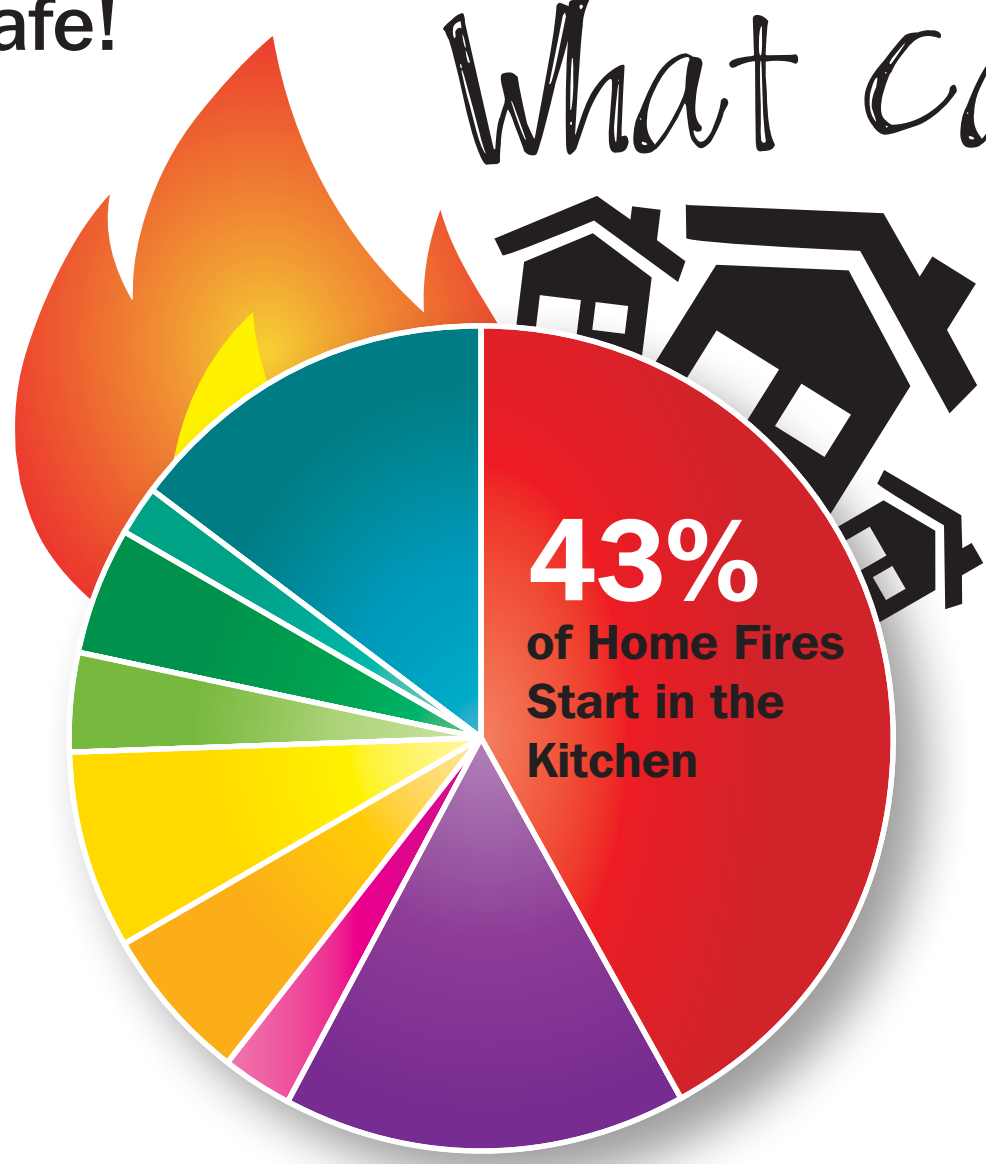


Home Fire Prevention



Each year there are more than **360,000** home fires; over **2500** deaths; over **13,000** injuries; over **7 billion** dollars worth of property destroyed. Most of these tragedies were preventable. Use the following fire prevention tips to keep safe!



What causes Home Fires?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ■ Cooking | ■ Laundry |
| ■ Heating | ■ Smoking Materials |
| ■ Candles | ■ Playing With Fire |
| ■ Electrical | ■ Other |
| ■ Intentional | |

Smoke Alarms SAVE LIVES!



Three out of five fire deaths were in homes without working smoke alarms. Your best defense against fire is a smoke alarm. You should have at least one alarm on every level of your home.



Kitchen Fires



The kitchen is the leading cause of home fires and injuries.

- Never leave cooking food unattended.
- Keep cooking surfaces clean.
- Hang curtains, potholders, and dishtowels at least three feet from the stove.
- Cook with the lowest effective heat.
- Supervise children in the kitchen at all times.
- Avoid cooking in loose fitting clothes or with sleeves that dangle.

Electrical Fires

- Avoid extension cords. Never run cords under rugs or across walkways.
- Never overload electrical outlets.
- Check cords and plugs for wear.
- Make sure appliances have the approval of a testing laboratory, such as UL.
- Lights flicker? Switches hot to the touch? Contact a licensed electrician right away.



Smoking

- Never smoke in bed or when sleepy.
- Smoke outside. Most smoking related fires start inside.
- If smoking inside, check for cigarette butts in chairs and sofas.
- Make sure that smoking materials are extinguished and ashtrays are cleaned when cool.



Heating

- Have chimneys cleaned and inspected each year.
- Use a fire screen on fireplaces to contain sparks.
- Ensure fires are completely out before leaving.
- Make sure all space heaters are clean and in good working condition.
- Use space heaters that have thermostat controls and will turn off if tipped over.
- Keep combustible materials at least 3 feet from all heat sources.
- Never hang holiday decorations from heat sources.



Fire Safety Tips

- + Keep matches and lighters away from children – they are tools, not toys.
- + Avoid candles. If you do use them, remember: When you go out – blow it out!
- + Keep flammable liquids away from heat sources.
- + Keep proper fire extinguishers on hand and know how to use them.
- + Have a fire escape plan and practice fire drills at least twice a year.



Avoid Disaster!
PREVENT HOME FIRES!

