



Fire Safety Checklist

Use this checklist to help determine if you and your family are fire safe.
Every unchecked box points to a fire hazard.

Housekeeping Fire Safety

- Basements, closets, and attics are cleared of old rags, papers, mattresses, broken furniture and other combustible odds and ends.
- Used oily polishing rags or waste are placed in covered metal containers.
- Paint and varnish are stored in tightly covered containers away from sources of heat.
- Matches are kept out of reach of children.
- Child safety latches are installed on all drawers and cabinets containing harmful products.
- All cleaning products are kept in their original containers with the original labels.

Smoke Alarms

- Smoke alarms are checked and cleaned monthly.
- Smoke alarm batteries are changed at least every six months, or as directed by manufacturer's recommendations.
- Smoke alarms are installed on every floor and outside all bedrooms.
- Smoke alarm batteries are never removed without be-

Kitchen Fire Safety

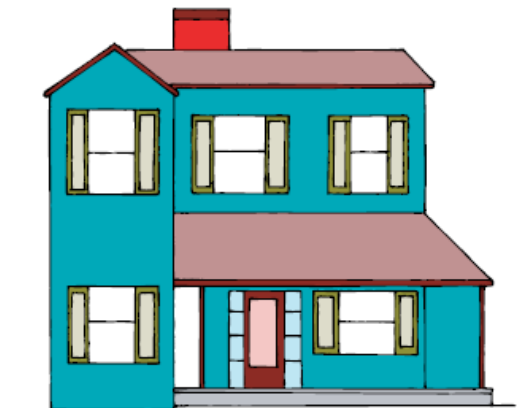
A "safety area" is established in the kitchen to keep small children confined and away from hot surfaces, hot liquids and flames.

- Short or tight-fitting sleeves are worn during cooking as loose sleeves could catch fire easily.
- Appliances are allowed to cool before putting them away and cords are never wrapped around warm appliances.
- Only a thermostatically controlled electric deep fryer is used when deep fat frying.

- A tight fitting lid is kept nearby so it can be used to cover a pot if oil ignites.
- No food is left unattended while cooking.
- All paper and cloth materials are kept away from heat sources.
- Pot handles turned inward to prevent them from getting bumped or grabbed.
- Children are never being held while an adult is cooking.
- Exhaust filters are checked for dirt and grease build-up and the filters are cleaned regularly.
- Microwave safe dishes are always used in the microwave and metal is never used.
- Outlets and cords have been checked to make sure they are safe.
- Grease and food are cleaned off the stove after every

Yard and Garage Fire Safety

- Yards are cleared of leaves, debris and combustible rubbish.
- Surrounding properties that are vacant are cleared of weeds, dry leaves and rubbish.
- Mulch is at least a foot away from the house with a non-combustible barrier in between, such as rock.
- Gasoline for use in a power mower or out-board motor is stored in a strong, metal safety-type can with self-closing caps on the openings.
- Garages attached to the house are separated by a tight-fitting door which is kept closed.



Grilling Fire Safety

- Grill hoses have been checked for cracking, brittleness, holes, and leaks and there are no sharp bends in the hose or tubing.
- Propane gas containers are kept upright.
- Gas containers are never stored under or near the grill or indoors.
- Flammable liquids, such as gasoline, are never stored or used near the grill.
- Filled propane containers are never stored in a hot car or a car trunk.
- Grills are never used inside homes, vehicles, tents, or campers – even if ventilation is provided. Grills are never used in garages or on wooden decks.
- Charcoal and charcoal grills are never stored inside when coals are freshly used.
- Grills are cleaned thoroughly before and after use to avoid grease buildup.
- Children are kept at least three feet away from the grilling area.
- Only proper grilling utensils and fire retardant mitts are used.
- Lighter fluid is *never* put directly on flames or on hot or warm coals.
- Hot grills are never left unattended.
- Loose clothing is never worn while grilling.
- A multi-purpose ABC fire extinguisher, garden hose and bucket of water or sand are kept nearby for extinguishment purposes.



Fire Safety at Public Gatherings

- The building appears to be in a condition that looks safe and has a wide main entrance that opens outward to allow easy exit.
- Outside areas are free of debris and exits are not blocked.
- A communication plan has been developed where a relative or friend has been identified as a contact in case of emergency and the group is separated.
- A meeting place is established outside the building to meet family and friends who are attending the function. All know to meet there in case of an emergency.
- After entering the building at least two exits are located that are clearly lit.
- Exit paths are wide and not obstructed by chairs or furniture. Blocked exits and exit paths are reported to the management.

- Members of the group feel safe in their surroundings and the building does not feel overcrowded.
- Heat sources such as candles burning, cigarettes or cigars burning, pyrotechnics are controlled and safety systems, like alternative exits, sprinklers and smoke alarms are in use.
- In case of emergency all members of the group immediately exit the building in an orderly fashion.
- No one goes back into the building for any reason until it is deemed safe by the emergency personnel.

Vacation Fire Safety

Before Leaving....

- Emergency contacts are set up and all travelers have their phone numbers, including work numbers.
- Stoves and electrical appliances have been turned off or disconnected and television sets and radios have been unplugged.

On Vacation.....

- Travelers with special mobility needs have requested a room on the first or second floor.
- Checked that every room has a smoke alarm and preferably a sprinkler system.
- Travelers read fire safety information provided by the hotel and an escape plan is made with at least two exits.
- Occupants count the number of doors between the room and the exit doors to help with escape in case vision is impaired during an emergency.
- Any exit doors that appear to be blocked or locked are reported to the management immediately.
- Hotel fire alarms are never ignored, even if smoke can not be seen from the room or hallway.

Safety Tips Provided By:

Danville Fire Department

600 Lynn Street

Danville, VA 24541

(434) 799-5226

and

Virginia Department of Fire Programs



**Be
FireSafe
VIRGINIA**
www.vafire.com