

Fire Safety - Tom Trippe - Oct. 17, 2015

Common House Fires and How to Avoid Them

Cooking (156,600 fires/yr)

Grease fires: use lid to smother, not water. Oven fires: turn off, shut oven door.

No flammable items near burners. Have ABC extinguisher ready.

Clean grease buildup from BBQ before lighting.

Electrical & Lighting (47,700 fires/yr, 418 deaths/yr)

Don't overload outlets. Shut off Xmas lights, halogen lights when unattended.

Check condition of cords and light strings.

Dryers & Washing Machines (16,800)

Keep lint screen clean, keep vent clear, don't leave unattended.

Candles (10,630, 115)

Don't leave unattended. Keep away from children, pets, and flammable objects.

Smoking (17,600, 490)

Don't smoke in bed or near medical oxygen. Use good ash tray.

Children Playing with Fire (7,100)

Keep matches and lighters away from children and teach them fire safety.

Prevention Inside Home

Install smoke detectors. Check batteries regularly.

Have fire extinguishers. Check them regularly. Best Equip. Co. will visit in Spring 2016.

Every floor, every bedroom.

If wildfire is nearby, move flammable curtains and furniture away from windows.

Close all doors and windows.

Prevention Outside Home

Trim shrubs and trees away from house.

Cut or remove dry weeds and grass.

Store combustibles like firewood away from house.

Locate gas shutoff and place wrench by it. Locate electrical shutoff.

Leave long enough hoses attached.

Take CERT classes

Subscribe to notices and check schedules here:

<http://www.cityofberkeley.info/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=57314>

Read resources

http://www.cityofberkeley.info/uploadedFiles/Fire/Level_3_-_General/Fire%20Safety.pdf

http://www.cityofberkeley.info/uploadedFiles/Fire/Level_3_-_General/Fire%20and%20Wildfire.pdf