



Campus fire safety is a serious issue.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, more than 1,700 fires occur every year in dormitories and Greek housing, causing \$2.8 million in damage—and the numbers are going up.

The numbers of students affected by fire-related emergencies is increasing, too. There are various causes of campus fires, but the fundamental issue is general lack of knowledge about fire safety and prevention.

Cooking is the leading cause of fire injuries on college campuses, closely followed by careless smoking and arson.

Alcohol abuse is often a factor in campus fire fatalities. Alcohol can impair judgment and hamper evacuation efforts.

Students can prepare for a safe new life away from home by following a few simple guidelines.



www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/fire

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www.fire.state.mn.us

Campus Fire Safety



Learn and Live



WHAT CAN I DO?

Identify and understand the fire hazards in your environment at all times.

Awareness, followed by an action plan, will improve your chance of survival.

WHAT'S GOIN' ON?

Many factors contribute to the problem of student housing fires.

- Improper use of the 911 notification systems delays emergency responders
- Lack of awareness when fire is a risk or threat in the environment
- Fire alarms are often ignored; that hinders evacuation efforts
- Building evacuations are slow due to lack of preparation and planning
- Vandalized or improperly maintained smoke alarms and fire alarm systems inhibit early fire detection
- Misuse of cooking appliances, overloaded electrical circuits and extension cords increase fire risk

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

- Assign an “event monitor” who stays unimpaired
- Clean up immediately after parties and take trash outside
- Do not overload electrical outlets
- Keep space heaters and halogen lamps away from flammable material
- Put out candles and incense when they are unattended
- Extinguish all smoking materials thoroughly
- Don't smoke when you're tired or impaired
- Be sure smoke alarms are in proper working condition
- Install new smoke alarm batteries at the beginning of each semester
- Know where all the building exits are located
- Practice your escape plan

TAKE FIRE ALARMS SERIOUSLY

- Never ignore fire alarms
- Do not wait to see fire or smoke
- Don't worry about “grabbing your stuff.” Your life is more important.

TAKE ACTION

- Find and remember all possible exits from your room or residence
- Make a fire escape plan that includes two different escape routes
- Practice your fire escape routes
- Perform a “home inspection” for fire and safety hazards
- Tell your roommates about your plan
- Call your local fire department for more information about student housing fire safety



GIVE YOURSELF A CHANCE!