

'Tis the Season to be Careful



ENJOY A FIRE SAFE HOLIDAY

WHAT'S THE RISK?

Smoking and cooking are the **top 2 causes of fatal fires** during the holidays (Nov, Dec, Jan).

Injuries caused by smoking account for **1 in 10 home** fire injuries during the holidays.

Smoking accounts for **30%** of all home fire deaths during the holidays.

Cooking fires account for **19%** of all home fires during the holidays.

27% of all home fire injuries occur in cooking fires during the holidays.

Alcohol is a factor in many fatal fires involving smoking and cooking.
DRINK RESPONSIBLY!

How do I protect my family during the holidays?

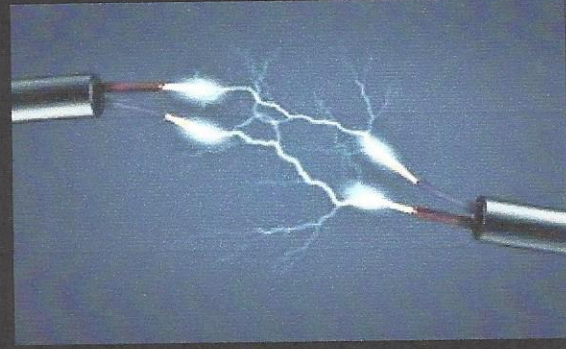
- ❖ Always stay in the kitchen while cooking. If you must leave, turn off the stove.
- ❖ Keep an eye on any drinkers in your household and make sure all cigarettes are properly extinguished and the stove is off before going to bed.
- ❖ Cigarettes can smoulder among upholstered items for hours before igniting. Check sofas and chairs for cigarettes that may have fallen between the cushions.
- ❖ Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers.
- ❖ Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

ARE YOU PROTECTED BY SMOKE AND CO ALARMS?

- ❖ In 34% of fatal home fires there is no smoke alarm warning.
- ❖ Install smoke alarms on every storey of your home and outside all sleeping areas.
- ❖ CO alarms are required outside all sleeping areas if your home has a fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage.



Electrical fires UNPLUGGED



PREVENT ELECTRICAL FIRES

WHAT'S THE RISK?

Electrical distribution equipment is the **fourth leading** cause of home fires.

The average dollar loss per electrical fire is **\$73,000**.

In 71% of home electrical fires, the cause is **electrical failure of the equipment**.

The **leading causes** of heating equipment fires are: circuit wiring (copper); cord/cable for appliances; distribution equipment (e.g. panel boards, fuses, circuits)

Arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) shut off electricity when a dangerous condition occurs. Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) shut off an electrical circuit when it becomes a shock hazard. GFCIs should be installed in bathrooms, kitchens, garages and basements.

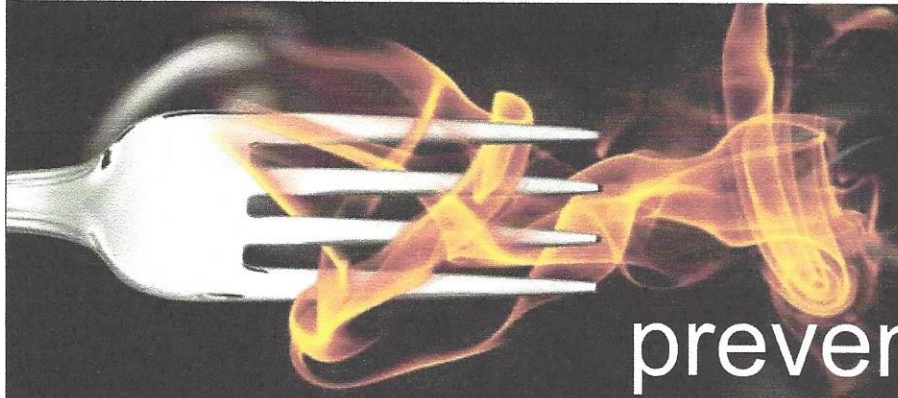
Always use a licensed electrician.

Statistics for Ontario between 2010-2014.
Provided by the Office of the Fire Marshal
and Emergency Management

How do I prevent an electrical fire?

- ❖ Check cords for damage such as fraying or nicks. A damaged cord can expose wires and result in a potential shock or fire hazard.
- ❖ Avoid running cords under rugs, which can damage the cord and cause a fire.
- ❖ Extension cords should be used only as a temporary connection. If permanent wiring is required, have additional outlets installed by a licensed electrician. Extension cords should not be linked together - use an extension cord that is long enough to do the job.
- ❖ Air conditioners and other heavy appliances should be plugged directly into an outlet.
- ❖ Avoid overloading a circuit with "octopus outlets". If additional outlets or circuits are required, have them installed by a licensed electrician

Office of the Fire Marshal & Emergency Management
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Only YOU can prevent cooking fires

COOKING IS THE #1 CAUSE OF HOME FIRES

WHAT'S THE RISK?

Cooking fires account for **22%** of all home fires.

Cooking **left unattended** is the cause of **52%** of all cooking fires.

Stovetop fires account for 71% of all cooking fires.

The average dollar loss per cooking fire is over **\$27,000**.

Cooking is the #2 cause of fatal fires in the home.

Statistics for Ontario between 2010-2014.
Provided by the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management

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How do I prevent a cooking fire?

- ❖ Always stay in the kitchen while cooking. If you must leave, turn off the stove.
- ❖ Keep anything that burns — cooking utensils, dishcloths, paper towels and pot holders — a safe distance from the stove.
- ❖ Loose-fitting clothes can come into contact with stove burners and catch fire. Wear tight sleeves or roll them up when cooking.

FIRE INJURIES and DEATHS

- ❖ 32% of all home fire injuries occur in cooking fires.
- ❖ 14% of all cooking fires result in an injury or death.
- ❖ 11% of all home fire fatalities are caused by cooking