

Prevent a Turkey Fryer Fire



Did you know?

Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires.

When you fry foods, you increase the risk of a cooking fire.

Keep in mind the potential dangers of deep frying a turkey:

- Turkey fryers can easily tip over spilling hot oil across a large area. Use your turkey fryer only outdoors on a sturdy, level surface well away from things that can burn. Make sure to have a “3-foot kid- and pet-free zone” around your turkey fryer to protect against burn injuries.
- An overfilled cooking pot will cause oil to spill over when the turkey is placed inside. Determine the correct amount of oil needed by first placing the turkey in the pot with water.
- A partially frozen turkey will cause hot oil to splatter. Make sure your turkey is completely thawed before you fry it.
- Turkey fryers can easily overheat and start a fire. Check the temperature often with a cooking thermometer so the oil won’t overheat.
- The pot, lid and handles of a turkey fryer can get dangerously hot and cause burn injuries. Use long cooking gloves that protect hands and arms when you handle these items.

For more information and free resources, visit

www.usfa.fema.gov



For more info call the
River Forest Fire Department
708-714-3562



Thanksgiving Safety



The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.

- » Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- » Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- » Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- » Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- » Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- » Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- » Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- » Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- » Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- » Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

Did you know?



Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

Have activities that keep **kids out of the kitchen** during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done **outside** the kitchen.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

NFPA reminds you

SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES.

Roughly **two thirds** of home fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms



Smoke alarms should be **installed** on every level of the home, outside each sleeping area and inside each bedroom.

For the best protection, **interconnect** all the smoke alarms so when one sounds, they all sound.

Replace smoke alarms **10** years from the date of manufacture.

Test all smoke alarms at least **once a month** by pushing the test button.



When the smoke alarm sounds, **get outside and stay outside.**

Go to your **outside meeting place.** **Call the fire department** from a cell or neighbor's phone.

Stay outside until the fire department tells you it is safe to go back inside.

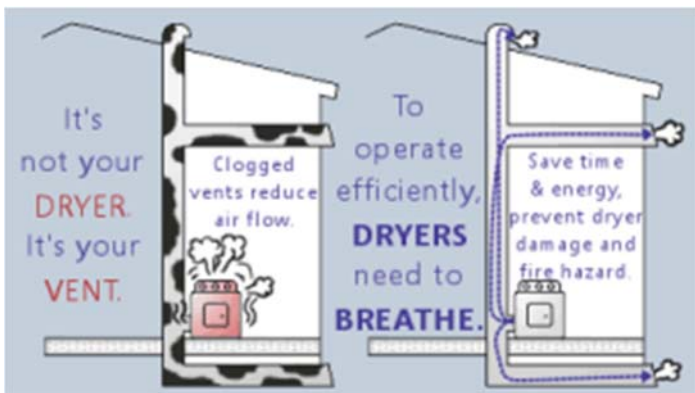




Dryer Safety

When was the last time you had your dryer vent cleaned? In a five-year time period U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 15,970 home fires involving clothes dryers or washing machines each year. These fires resulted in annual losses estimated at 13 deaths, 440 injuries, and \$238 million in property damage. Lint and debris can build up in your clothes dryer duct causing your dryer to work overtime, creating potentially hazardous conditions including dangerous levels of carbon monoxide in your home or even a fire. The River Forest Fire Department, along with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) offer the following safety tips that can help you keep your dryer venting efficiently while keeping your family safe.

- ◆ Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- ◆ Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.
- ◆ Make sure you clean the lint filter after each and every load of laundry.
- ◆ Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- ◆ Rigid or flexible metal venting material should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- ◆ Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- ◆ Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- ◆ Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that the machine is connected properly.
- ◆ Turn the dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.
- ◆ Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and don't overload your dryer.



For more information call the River Forest Fire Prevention Bureau at 708-714-3562.