

## Types of Fire Extinguishers and Uses:



# EHS ALERT: Fire Safety



## Common Fire Hazards on Campus:

**Class A:** Used for ordinary combustibles (wood/paper/cloth)



**Class B:** Used for flammable liquids (gasoline/grease/oil)



**Class C:** Used for electrical equipment (wiring/electrical motors)



**Class D:** Used for combustible metal (magnesium/aluminum)



**Class K:** Used for cooking equipment (cooking oil/animal fats)



Note: It is important to use the correct type of fire extinguisher for the hazard present.

### Proper Fire Extinguisher Use:

Most fire extinguishers can be operated using the "P.A.S.S." technique.

1. **PULL**- Pull the pin to break the seal.



2. **AIM**- Point the nozzle of the extinguisher low and aim at the base.



3. **SQUEEZE**- Squeeze the handle to release the extinguishing agent.



4. **SWEEP**- Sweep side to side at the base of the fire. Continue to do this until the fire is seemingly out.



**Candle Use** is prohibited on WVU campus.



When using **Space Heaters**, remember to:

- Use a UL listed electric heater
- Plug heater directly into a wall outlet
- Keep things that burn at least 3 feet away
- Shut off the heater when you leave

**Smoking** is prohibited on WVU campuses.



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For more information about fire safety at WVU, please refer to our website: [www.ehs.wvu.edu](http://www.ehs.wvu.edu)

# WVU CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY FOR STUDENTS

Fire Safety Outreach provided by:

The Center for Campus Fire Safety Student Committee and the National Fire Protection Association [campusfiresafety.org](http://campusfiresafety.org) | [nfpa.org](http://nfpa.org)

## PRACTICE KITCHEN FIRE SAFETY

If a fire starts in your stove, toaster oven or microwave, keep the door closed and unplug the unit until the fire burns out. Do NOT use water on a grease fire – it only makes the fire worse and hot oil can splatter and burn you. If you're sleepy or drowsy, don't cook a meal that requires turning on appliances.



## KEEP EXITS CLEAR

We get it, there's not a lot of space in your dorm room or apartment but that doesn't mean you should store your bikes or suitcases or whatever in halls and stairwells – and especially NOT in front of exit doors. You need these areas free and clear so you can make a fast escape in case of a fire. If stuff is blocking your exits, you could easily get trapped inside the burning building.



## BE 'POWER SAFE'

When you overload extension cords, power strips or outlets, you are also overloading the circuit, causing it to heat up and catch fire. And don't even THINK about using a two-prong plug in a three-hole slot either, which not only can cause a fire, but can give you an electrical shock. Play it safe and use only the required number of slots in an outlet or power strip.

## CLEAN DRYER LINT

Clothes dryers cause hundreds of injuries and too many deaths each year. It sounds silly but by clean-ing the lint holder after every load, you reduce the chance lint can catch on fire.



## WHEN THE ALARM SOUNDS ... GET OUT

Fire doubles in volume every 30-60 seconds. In just a couple of minutes, an entire room or multiple rooms can be engulfed in flames and smoke. When the fire alarm sounds, get out of the building – FAST and NEVER, no matter what, delay or go back inside the building to get your "things". Ask yourself, is a cell phone or computer more important than your life? No way. You can always buy a new cell phone, but you can't buy your life back.

## BE CHOOSY WHERE YOU LIVE

Smoke alarms and sprinkler systems save lives. When it comes time to look for housing, don't choose just ANY place. Check out a number of locations to make sure the room or apartment you want has WORKING smoke detectors installed.

## RESPECT YOUR SMOKE DETECTOR

Too many fire deaths have occurred when a smoke detector has been disabled. Always LEAVE the batteries in the smoke detector, NEVER undo the cover, and DON'T take the smoke detector off the wall or ceiling. If you do, the detector can't warn you about a potential fire.



## STICK TO RECOMMENDED WATTAGE ON LIGHT BULBS

When it comes to lamps, use light bulbs with the correct wattage. Replacing a bulb that has too-high a wattage, like using a 100-watt bulb in a 60-watt fixture, can cause intense heat, melt the light socket and insulation on the fixture's wires and cause a fire.

## DON'T COVER YOUR LAMP WITH A SCARF

Covering lamps with a scarf might look nice and create a great atmosphere in your room, but it's also a huge fire problem. Put your hand over a lamp shade and feel the heat coming from the bulb. Now imagine a scarf resting on the lamp-shade. Keep all materials that can catch fire away from your lamps.

## TURN OFF APPLIANCES

When you leave a room or apartment, ALWAYS turn off the stove, iron, curling irons and other appliances. Leaving these things "on" causes the appliance to overheat and spark a fire.