



# HOME FIRE SAFETY CHECK

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  @ArlingtonVaFD

## ARLINGTON COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Cooking

- The cooking area, including on top of the stove and in the oven, is free from all items that can burn.
- Pots on the stove are not left unattended while cooking, remember “*Keep an Eye on What You Fry.*”
- The oven is never used to heat the home.
- Cooking vents are cleaned per manufacturer’s directions.
- Charcoal and gas grills are only used outdoors and at least 15 feet from the home, deck or garage.

### Smoking

- House rules include not smoking in bed or while lying down.
- Ashtrays are large, deep and kept away from any items that can burn.

### Heating

- Baseboard heaters do not touch any furniture, curtains or other items stored on the floor.
- Chimneys and heating systems are inspected, cleaned and repaired annually prior to the heating season.
- The area around the furnace is clear of all items that can burn.
- All portable heaters are placed at least three feet from furniture, walls or bedding.
- Portable heaters are plugged directly into wall outlets and turned off when you leave the room.
- Every fireplace is equipped with a sturdy metal screen.

### Electrical & Appliances

- Extension cords are not used as permanent wiring.
- Extension cords used are not tacked to walls, run under rugs, or through doorways.
- Safety covers are present on all outlets if small children are present.
- Appliances are plugged directly into wall outlets.
- Clothes dryer lint filter and venting system are clean.

### Housekeeping

- Matches and lighters are kept out of reach of children in a secure place.
- Paint, varnish and other flammable are stored in sturdy metal containers and in a cool place.
- Ashes from fireplaces and barbeques are only disposed of in metal containers.
- Candles are placed in sturdy holders away from children, pets or things that can burn.
- Candles are extinguished before leaving the room or going to bed.

### Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Smoke alarms are installed on every level of the home and in every bedroom.
- Smoke alarms are tested monthly and vacuumed regularly.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are located on every level of the home.
- Alarm batteries are changed twice a year, unless equipped with a 10-year lithium battery.
- All alarms are less than 10 years old.

### Escape Plan

- You have a plan of escape showing two ways out of every room and an outside family meeting place.
- You regularly practice your escape plan by having fire drills with everyone in your home.
- Your house numbers are clearly visible from the street.
- Fire extinguishers are rated at least 2A:10B:C and only considered for use by adults on small fires after calling 9-1-1.