

# Fire Safety Tips for Students

Be Responsible. Be Safe.



**A**re you living away from home for the first time...in a residence, a shared house or in your own apartment?

**If so, don't be a statistic!**

Every year, negligence causes 83% of all residential fires, millions of dollars in property damage, burn injuries and death in New Brunswick.

**The following tips could save your life!**

## Smoke alarms

**S**moke alarms save lives! They warn you when smoke is present. Do not disconnect smoke alarms by removing the battery, fuse or breaker. Legally, you could be held liable if someone is injured because you disarmed the smoke alarm.



- Test your smoke alarm once a month.
- Change the battery in your smoke alarm in the spring and fall when you reset your clocks.
- Once a year, open the cover and carefully vacuum the sensor.
- Do not cover or disconnect your smoke alarm when having a party. If it gets too smoky, open doors and windows to air out the room.

## Cigarette disposal

**A**fter a party, check under pillows on the couch, and in chairs, for burning cigarettes.

- Extinguish cigarette butts using deep safety ashtrays, by dousing them with water, or by placing them in a metal container with an airtight lid.



## Candles

**– handle with care!**

**C**andles can be dangerous because they are open flames. Take care when burning them.

- Place candles at least one meter away from combustibles.
- Make sure your candles won't tip by placing them in stable holders on a flat surface.
- Don't leave candles unattended.
- Cut wicks to 1/2 inch or 13 mm.
- Make sure candles are completely extinguished before you leave the room.



## Cooking-related fires

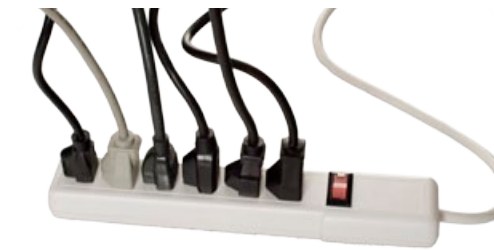
**M**ost home fires start in the kitchen.

- Never leave a hot stove unattended.
- Keep combustible material such as potholders, paper towels and oven mitts away from the stove top.
- If you must cook with oil on the stovetop, make sure you keep a tight-fitting lid nearby.
- Don't try to move a flaming pan. Cover it

with a lid, and turn off the burner.

- Cook french fries or other foods in a conventional oven, microwave, or in a thermostatically controlled deep-fat fryer. Don't use a saucepan of oil on a stove-top burner.

## Electrical fire safety



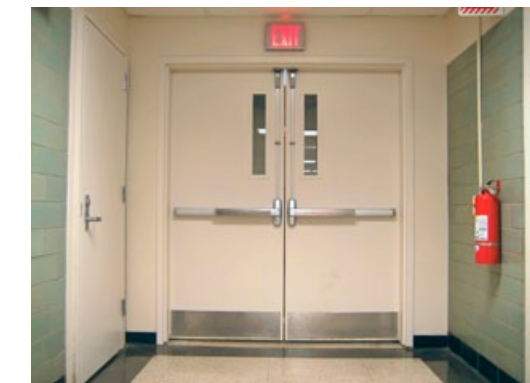
**A**lways use a fused power bar for stereos and computers which require protection against electronic surges.

- Avoid using extension cords for long-term use.
- Keep extension cords in plain view. Prevent them from overheating. Don't tuck them under carpets or behind objects.
- If you have a persistent problem with fuses or breakers, advise your landlord or building superintendent.
- Don't tamper with breakers or replace fuses with ones of a higher amperage.
- Portable space heaters must be used at least three feet or one meter from combustibles.
- When leaving your room or apartment, disconnect your portable space heater.

## Fire exits

**K**eepp fire exits clear. Do not store bicycles, sporting equipment and garbage in hallways or stairwells.

- Fire doors help contain smoke and fire. They do not function properly if they are wedged open or tied back.
- It is against the law to tamper with exit doors, fire extinguishers, automatic sprinkler systems, automatic fire or smoke detection systems, or manual or automatic fire alarm systems.



**Remember!**  
**Plan and practice two escape routes out of your home. It may save your life!**