



## **Fire Safety Tips**

 - Any time you are staying in a hotel, count the doors between your room and the exit because "EXIT" signs are often shrouded by smoke during a fire.

 - Deep fat frying is a major kitchen hazard. Oil heated in a pot on the stove can easily overheat and burst into flames. Fire departments recommend that you use only a thermostatically controlled deep fat fryer.\* Use Deep Fat Turkey Fryers with extreme caution!

 - Always keep a large lid near the stove when you are cooking. If a pot catches fire, slide the lid over the pot and turn off the stove. NEVER put water on a burning pot or try to move it to the sink.\*

 - Never leave cooking unattended - particularly if you are using oil or high temperatures. A stovetop fire can start in a flash, so keep a close eye on your cooking at all times.\*

 - Be sure to wear tight fitting or rolled up sleeves when using the stove. A dangling sleeve on a housecoat or sweater can easily brush against a hot burner and catch fire.\*

 - A fire extinguisher can be a useful safety item - if you know how to operate it. Use a multi-purpose, listed extinguisher that is right for your particular kitchen. Fire extinguishers must only be used on small, contained fires. Never allow the fire to get between you and your exit.\*

 - Combustible items, such as wooden or plastic cooking utensils, dishcloths, paper towels and pot holders can easily ignite if they are too close to a burner. Keep all combustible items a safe distance from your stove.\*

 - If you experience a kitchen burn, immediately run cool water over the wound for several minutes. The water will prevent further burning and relieve the pain. If the burn is severe, seek medical attention.\*

 - Many night time fires are caused by people attempting to cook while under the influence of alcohol. Don't let this happen in your home. Keep a close eye on drinkers and install a smoke alarm on every level of your home.\*

 - It is the law in Ontario that all residences have working smoke alarms. Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home, and outside sleeping areas. Test your smoke alarms every month and change the batteries at least once a year.\*

 - Keep Matches and lighters away from children. Store them on a high shelf, out of reach and out of sight of children.

 - Remember to clean up your workbench, storage area and attic too. Keep combustibles at least 4 feet (1.2 m) away from open flames and ignition sources such as your woodstove, dryer, furnace and hot water heater.

 - Have an electrician replace damaged cords, plugs and frayed or cracked wires DO NOT attempt to do it yourself.

 - Never store propane, gasoline or any other flammable liquid inside the home or cottage. Leave them in their original containers or in approved safety containers and store them outside the house, away from ignition sources.

 - Never smoke while handling fuel.

 - Make a fire escape plan and practice your escape at least twice a year.

 - If you are ever caught in a fire, get out quickly, don't stop for anything. Open doors carefully, there may be smoke or fire on the other side. Use the back of your hand to touch the doorknob and the the spaces around the edge of the door. Close the doors behind you. This will help keep the smoke and fire from spreading.

 - Tips for babysitters -

- In the event of a fire - Your first responsibility is the safety of the children.
- If you smell smoke or gas, take the children immediately to a safe location outside the building.
- Never waste time dressing the children - a blanket will do, even in cold weather.
- Do not turn on any switched as this may cause a spark and an explosion.
- Never go back into a burning building for any reason whatsoever. Smoke and gas are dangerous, even from a very small fire.
- Have a neighbour call the Fire Department.

\* This information comes from a pamphlet produced by The Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council