

Barbecue Safety

- ◆ Never leave a barbecue unattended.
- ◆ Always have a hose, bucket of water, or fire extinguisher nearby.
- ◆ Never squirt charcoal lighter fluid on burning briquettes.
- ◆ When you change propane tanks, check the fittings for proper seal and fit.
- ◆ Read the Owner's Manual prior to operating a gas grill.
- ◆ Open the lid while igniting gas barbecue burners or wait five (5) minutes to allow the gas to clear if the barbecue does not light.
- ◆ Always dispose of barbecue ashes in a covered metal container. Briquettes can remain hot for several days!
- ◆ Use extra caution when cooking on a wood deck.



Special Information for Renters

- ◆ Your landlord is responsible for providing a working smoke alarm for your rental housing, however, you are responsible for the maintenance, testing, and battery replacement.
- ◆ Keep exits from your apartment clear.
- ◆ Do not store combustibles in stairwells.
- ◆ Do not park or block fire hydrants or marked fire lanes.
- ◆ Consider obtaining renter's insurance. *(Insurance carried by your Landlord will not cover your possessions.)*



Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue

Serving the cities of Beaverton, Durham, King City, Newberg, North Plains, Rivergrove, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin, West Linn, and Wilsonville, along with surrounding communities within portions of unincorporated Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington and Yamhill counties



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Prevent • Prepare • Respond




Fire Safety in Your Home



How You Can Protect Your Life, Family, and Home

Smoke Alarms

- ♦ Install working smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside every sleeping area, and inside each bedroom. 
- ♦ Check alarms monthly by pushing the test button and listening for the alarm (change batteries as needed).
- ♦ Consider replacing old battery alarms with the new long-life battery alarms with the 'hush' feature.
- ♦ If you have frequent nuisance smoke alarm activations from cooking oils or shower steam, consider relocating the alarm.
- ♦ NEVER disable a smoke alarm!

Escape Planning

- ♦ Draw a family escape plan identifying two exits from every room (door and window).
- ♦ Identify an outside meeting place.
- ♦ Purchase an escape ladder if your bedrooms are above the first floor.
- ♦ Practice your escape plan at least twice a year.
- ♦ Never go back into a burning house!

Addressing

- ♦ Make sure your address is clearly visible from the street for emergency responders.
- ♦ Post your address and phone number near your phone for use by babysitters and/or visitors.

Cooking

- ♦ Never leave cooking food unattended. If you must leave the kitchen, turn off the stove and/or oven.
- ♦ Keep your cooking areas clean and clear of combustibles.
- ♦ Heat cooking oils slowly.
- ♦ Keep a lid or cookie sheet handy to slide over the top of a skillet or pan fire.
- ♦ Never put water on a grease fire!



Children & Fire

- ♦ Keep matches and lighters out of the reach and sight of children.
- ♦ Teach young children to tell an adult if they find matches or lighters.
- ♦ Educate children about the dangers of fire.

Smoking

- ♦ Never smoke in bed or when drowsy.
- ♦ Use sturdy non-tip ashtrays.
- ♦ Dispose of ashes and cigarettes in a metal container with a lid.



Electrical Safety

- ♦ Extension cords should not be used in place of permanent wiring.
- ♦ Tripped circuit breakers should not be overlooked - they can be a sign of serious electrical problems.



- ♦ Unplug small appliances when not in use.
- ♦ Never run electrical cords under a rug.

Furnaces & Flammables

- ♦ Have your furnace or heating system inspected regularly.
- ♦ Have your fireplace chimney cleaned regularly.
- ♦ Never store gasoline, solvents, or other flammable liquids inside your home or near a furnace.
- ♦ Oil soaked rags should be discarded in water-filled, metal containers with lids to prevent spontaneous ignition.

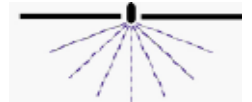


Fire Extinguishers

- ♦ Purchase an all-purpose fire extinguisher and teach all family members how to use it.

Sprinklers

If you plan to build a new home, consider installing a fire sprinkler system. *(The cost of a home sprinkler system is comparable to an upgrade in carpets or cabinets.)* The combination of working smoke alarms and a residential fire sprinkler system can increase your chances of surviving a house fire to 97 percent.



**Dial 9-1-1
to Report A Fire**