

*Fire Prevention Week Oct. 8-14*

# Prevent cooking fires: Watch what you heat

**T**he Davis Fire Department and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) will observe Fire Prevention Week Oct. 8-14. Cooking safety is the theme of this year's campaign, "Prevent cooking fires: Watch what you heat."

Fire Prevention Week is intended to raise the public's awareness of fire safety and the importance of preventing cooking fires in the home.

More fires start in the kitchen than in any other part of the home.

**Fire Safety**  
**IN FOCUS**

That's because people permit themselves to become distracted while cooking, and the consequences can be far worse than burned food. Fueled by cooking oils, paper or plastic bags, curtains, or other combustible materials, cooking fires spread quickly, leaving only

moments to escape safely.

Cooking fires are the most common cause of home fires, which often result in injuries. NFPA statistics show that home cooking fires kill hundreds of home owners and injure roughly 4,000 more each year.

To promote safer cooking, the Davis Fire Department offers nine safety tips:

- Remain in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, broiling or boiling food.

- If you must leave the room even for a short period of time, turn off the stove.

- When you are simmering, baking or roasting food, check it regularly, stay in the home, and use a timer to remind you when to remove the food from the stove or oven.

- Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire.

- Keep cooking areas

clean and clear of combustibles such as potholders, towels, rags, draperies and food packaging.

- Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of three feet around the stove.

- Never use a wet oven mitt, which can cause scalding if the moisture is heated.

- If a fire erupts in your oven, turn off the heat and keep its door closed to prevent flames from burning you and your clothing.

- If a fire occurs in your microwave oven, keep its door closed and disconnect its electrical power. Call 911 and make sure to have the oven serviced before you use it again.



Cooking fires kill hundreds of people each year. Take some simple steps to avoid dangerous before & after scenarios like this one. You'll be glad you did!

## Hey kids...

Bring your parents to the City of Davis Fire Department's annual open house on **October 21 from 10 am to 2 p.m. at Station 31 (530 Fifth Street)**. This year's theme is "Prevent Cooking Fires: Watch what you heat." Meet your local firefighters, learn about fire safety, try on firefighters' gear, and enjoy a hot dog and drink!

**OCTOBER IS FIRE PREVENTION MONTH**

Daylight savings time ends October 29th. So remember...

...When you change your clocks, change your smoke detector batteries!

Smoke detectors save lives

When you change your clocks back to standard time on **October 29**, remember to change the batteries in your smoke alarms, too. Once you've changed the batteries, be sure to **test the alarms**. If you have any questions, contact the City of Davis Fire Department at 757-5684 or at [www.cityofdavis.org](http://www.cityofdavis.org).

