

## IN CASE OF FIRE:

- Use caution before opening the door by feeling the door for warmth with back of hand
- Determine which way the door opens, brace yourself, stand to the side, and open door slightly
- Immediately close door if heavy smoke or heat are encountered.

## GET OUT AND STAY OUT

- Get out of the building before phoning for help
- Don't look for other people or gather up your stuff
- Pull the fire alarm, but only if it is on your way out
- Close the door behind you and take your room keys
- Crawl low to the floor to stay below the heat and smoke
- If you can't get out, get someone's attention

## REMEMBER

- Fire can happen to you. Never assume it can't.
- Survival is your first priority
- Smoke and fire move quickly
- Assure that you have working smoke alarms and don't tamper with them
- Know at least 2 escape routes

## BE PREPARED

- Fire in residence halls can kill.
- If you are caught in a fire, survival is your top priority.
- Know at least 2 escape routes.
- Take fire alarms seriously and evacuate immediately when they are activated.
- Take responsibility for fire prevention by limiting combustibles and being clean.
- Do not overload electrical circuits.

For more fire safety information, go to the fire safety page at: [www.bc.edu/ehs](http://www.bc.edu/ehs)

## FIRE EXTINGUISHER USE



## EHS STAFF

Gail Hall, *Director*

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[www.bc.edu/ehs](http://www.bc.edu/ehs)

**In the event of fire, immediately notify the Boston College Police Department:**  
**617-552-4444**

# BOSTON COLLEGE



## FIRE SAFETY & PREVENTION

OFFICE OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

### COOKING SAFETY INFORMATION

Most residence fires start in the kitchen, and the leading cause of kitchen fires is unattended cooking. Often, the person cooking gets distracted, leaves the room, forgets they are cooking, or falls asleep. Eventually the food or liquid overheats and catches fire.

The best way to help avoid a cooking or kitchen fire:

- Stay near the stove or in the room at all times when cooking.
- If you must leave the room, remove the food from the heat and turn off the stove.
- Keep all loose material and objects that can catch fire, including clothing, away from the heat and the stove.
- Use only Underwriters Laboratory (UL) approved appliances for cooking.
- Keep the oven, stove, toaster, and grill clean – a buildup of fat, crumbs, or grease can easily catch fire.
- Keep all metal or metallic items out of the microwave.
- When you have finished cooking, make sure to turn off all cooking appliances.

### COOKING SAFETY INFORMATION

If food catches fire:

- If you have a lid and an oven mitt try placing the lid over the pan which will smother the flames.
- Turn off the heat under the pan if it's safe to do so and allow it to cool completely.
- If the fire involves grease in a pan don't move the pan and never throw water on it. Water will cause the grease to explode, spreading the fire or possibly burning you.
- If there is a fire in the oven, leave the door shut and turn off the oven so the fire will die out.

**In the event of fire, notify the Boston College Police Department by calling 617-552-4444.**

### FIRE SAFETY LAWS

According to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 148 Section 27a:

- It is unlawful to tamper with fire protection systems, including fire sprinklers, fire extinguishers, fire alarm pull stations, and smoke detectors.
- Do not obstruct fire protection systems in any way.

### PROHIBITED ITEMS

The following items are considered fire hazards and prohibited in the residence halls. If students are found in possession of the items, they will be confiscated and disposed with the student possibly subject to judicial sanctions, including probation, fines and/or community service.

- Candles or Incense
- Extension Cords (Power strips with breakers are allowed.)
- Non-University Mattresses
- Foam Mattresses or Foam Mattress Toppers
- Halogen Lamps or Octopus Lamps
- Indoor/Outdoor Cooking Grills
- Space Heaters
- Electric Blankets

#### Prohibited in units without kitchens:

- Heat producing appliances including but not limited to: Hot Plates, Toasters, Toaster Ovens, Coffee Makers, Keurig, Steam Cookers, Water Heating Units