

FIRE PREVENTION TIP SHEET

COOKING SAFETY



Cooking fires are the leading cause of house fires and home fire injuries in Canada, and these fires can be prevented.

Cooking fire prevention tips

- Always monitor food when it is cooking; never leave cooking food unattended.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are cooking food. If you have to leave the room – even for a short time – turn off any cooking appliance(s).
- Keep anything that can catch fire, such as oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains, away from your cooking appliance(s).
- Use a timer to remind you that you're cooking.
- Keep an oven mitt and pan lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan to smother the flame. Turn off the burner, and leave the pan covered until it is completely cool.
- Have a “kid-free zone” of at least one metre (three feet) around the stove and areas where hot food or drinks are prepared or carried. This will reduce the risk of scald injuries.
- Be alert when cooking; reconsider using cooking appliances if you are tired, have taken medicine or drugs, or have consumed alcohol that makes you drowsy.

What to do if there is a fire

When there is a fire, your priority is to keep yourself and others safe. You may choose to try to fight a fire if it is small. If you have any doubt about fighting the fire, do the following:

1. Ensure you and all others get out of the home safely.
2. Close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
3. Call 9-1-1 from outside the home.

Small grease fire on stovetop

If you decide to fight a small grease fire on your stovetop, do the following:

1. Slide a pan lid over the pan to smother the flame.
2. Turn off the burner(s).
3. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cool.

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Oven fire

If there is a fire in your oven, do the following:

1. Turn off the heat.
2. Keep the oven door closed.
3. If the fire does not go out, get outside and call 9-1-1 from outside the home.

Microwave fire

If there is a fire in your microwave, do the following:

1. Keep the microwave door closed.
2. Turn the microwave off.
3. Unplug the microwave from the wall.
4. If the fire does not go out, get outside and call 9-1-1 from outside the home.

Information contained in this tip sheet has been modified from the National Fire Protection Association.

Contact Leduc County Fire Services

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leduc-county.com/fire-prevention