

# Arcadia University Commuter Life

## Home Fire Safety Checklist



### Heating

- ✓ Keep furniture, curtains and other stuff away from baseboard heaters.
- ✓ Keep electric portable heaters at least 3 feet away from anything that burns. This generally includes everything in your home.

### Electrical

- ✓ Never use an extension cord to run a portable electric heater. Use surge-protected power strips.
- ✓ Limit the use of extension cords and never string them together.
- ✓ Never run extension cords under rugs or through doorways.
- ✓ Unplug small appliances like toasters, curling irons, hair dryers when you're not using them.

### Housekeeping

- ✓ Do not store gasoline, lawn mowers, and motorcycles in your home.
- ✓ Ashes from fireplaces and woodstoves should be stored in metal containers outside your home. Candles cause fires. Unintentional carelessness is dangerous. Be ever vigilant!

### Smoking

- ✓ Smoking in bed and improper disposal of cigarette butts cause fires.

### Kitchen

- ✓ Never leave cooking food unattended. Unattended cooking causes kitchen fires.
- ✓ Put a lid on it. Never carry a burning pan of oil outside. This will spread the fire up your arms and outside.
- ✓ Never use your oven to heat your home.

### Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

- ✓ PA State law requires smoke detectors in every home.
- ✓ In specific circumstances, the law requires carbon monoxide detectors as well, but these can be purchased and installed easily. Talk with your landlord.
- ✓ You and your landlord are required by law to maintain smoke detectors in operable condition.
- ✓ If battery operated, your landlord should change the batteries every year.
- ✓ The age of your building will determine what other fire safety installations are required.

### Escape Plan

- ✓ Have two ways to get out of every room, especially the bedrooms.
- ✓ Windows and doors should open easily and fully if they are your way out.