

The Fire & Life-Safety Group (FLS)

Kitchen Safety

According to the United States Fire Administration/National Fire Data Center, about 38,418 fires were caused by appliances in the year 2000. In response, FLS recommends the following:

- Verify all appliances' cooking top or oven racks are level
- Verify all appliances are located away from the sink, stove, and the edge of the counter
- Verify all electrical cords are tucked away from the sink, stove, and the edge of the counter
- Verify all cords to appliances are in good working order
- Verify curtains and furniture are away from heat producing kitchen appliances and that they do not block heater vents
- Verify exhaust hood and filter are clean
- Verify all fire extinguishers are accessible and visible
- We recommend appliances be unplugged when not in use
- Storage on top or inside ovens should be prohibited
- Combustibles should not be located near ignition sources, such as stoves, toasters, and coffee makers
- All spills on the stove should be cleaned up as soon as possible
- The kitchen should be free of clutter
- Other good housekeeping practices should be followed