STAY ALIVE

PARTICIPATE IN FIRE DRILLS
Fire drills are used to practice notification and evacuation procedures. They are designed to familiarize occupants with facility warning systems, emergency exits, and assembly locations.

HAVE AN EXIT STRATEGY
Develop a personal plan that entails a primary and alternate escape route. The route should include an exit passageway (interior stairway, hallway or corridor) and an exit (exterior door or window) that allows occupants to safely leave the facility.

IF HANDICAPPED OR DISABLED
Know and practice your facility’s fire evacuation procedures. Plan ahead for fire emergencies and know your own capabilities and/or limitations.

Elevators are not the best option and may lose power, trapping occupants in a fire. Residential Programs staff will inform fire fighters where handicapped residents reside.

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS
People under the influence of alcohol or drugs may not be able to hear the fire alarm or find an exit. They are especially vulnerable to being killed from smoke inhalation. Attempt to assist others, and let fire fighters know if you think someone has not evacuated the facility.

NEVER IGNORE A FIRE ALARM
Immediately leave the facility and do not reenter until the “all clear” has been issued by University Police or fire department personnel.
**FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS**

**FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**
Only use a fire extinguisher if you know how to do it safely and the fire is very small. Discharge the extinguisher 8–10 feet away and **PASS**:

- Pull pin
- Aim at base of fire
- Squeeze handle
- Sweep side to side

Notify University Police, even if you think the fire is out.

Immediately leave the scene if the extinguisher does not put out the fire. Most extinguishers will only last 30 seconds. Initiate an evacuation and call **9-1-1**.

**IF THERE IS A FIRE**

1. Activate the nearest **fire alarm pull station** as soon as you see a fire. Warn other occupants by **knocking on doors and shouting** as you leave.

2. Close doors as you go and **use the nearest exit**. Do NOT attempt a rescue unless you can do so safely.

3. Call **9-1-1** to report the nature and location of the fire. Do NOT reenter until the “all clear” is issued.

**IF YOU ARE ON FIRE**
STOP, DROP and ROLL if your clothes catch on fire. If assisting someone else, smother the fire with a blanket or rug and notify an emergency responder.

**TO SURVIVE A FIRE**
Crawl low in smoke. If you get caught in smoke, get down and crawl. Cleaner air will be near the floor.

Feel doors before opening. Before opening, feel the door with your hand. If it is cool, brace yourself against the door, open it slightly, and if confronted by heat or heavy smoke, close the door and stay in the room.

Go to the nearest stairway or exit. If the nearest exit is blocked by heat, fire or smoke, stay low and go to another exit. Use stairs, not elevators.

Elevator shafts may fill with smoke or power may fail, leaving you trapped. Stairwell fire doors will keep out smoke (if closed) and protect you until you get outside.

**IF YOU GET TRAPPED**
Exit via a window. If on the first floor, open a window or break the glass if sealed and carefully exit.

Keep doors closed. A closed door can protect you from heat and smoke. Seal door cracks and vents to prevent incoming smoke, and open windows.

Signal for help. Call **9-1-1** to report your location and status. Hang a towel or clothing item from the window to attract firefighters’ attention.

Stay alive. Stay low near a window to avoid smoke and expedite rescue.

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**HELP ELIMINATE CAMPUS FIRES**

**FIRE PREVENTION**
Fire safety equipment, such as emergency lighting, exit signs, smoke detectors, warning devices and sprinklers, are essential to fire safety. Tampering with or damaging these devices can **endanger people and property**.

Overloading electrical outlets or power strips to increase electrical capacity can result in overloaded circuits or fire. Only use **extension cords** on a temporary basis.

Open flame sources such as candles, unattended cooking, and improperly extinguished cigarettes are leading causes of facility fires.

**PROPER STORAGE PRACTICES**
Storing prohibited items (bikes or furniture) in corridors or stairwells can block exits and delay or injure people during emergency evacuations.

Flammable liquids, such as gasoline, ether, paint, etc., may not be stored in residential buildings. Storage of flammable liquids is limited to specific quantities and containers in shops, laboratories and classrooms.

**REPORTING UNSAFE CONDITIONS**
Immediately report damaged or inoperative fire safety equipment, improper storage practices or other unsafe conditions to Environmental Health and Safety.