

Cooking and Safety Tips

Tenant's safety and well-being is important to Westwinds Communities. Cooking fires are the main cause of fires in homes. Follow these tips to cook safely in your home.

Ranges

- Stay in the kitchen while you are cooking. Never leave the range unattended.
- If you must leave the kitchen, turn off the range.
- If you are using the oven portion, check often and set a timer.
- Keep anything that could catch fire away from the range; E.g. oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper products, curtains etc.
- Keep the range clean of grease or food splatters as these could catch fire.
- Always use oven mitts to remove items from the oven, a towel does not provide the same level of protection.
- Keep children away from the range and areas where hot food is being prepared or carried.

Microwaves

- Always test the temperature of food before eating.
- Do not warm baby bottles in the microwave. Liquids do not heat evenly and can cause burns even when the outside feels cool. Heat bottles in a bowl of hot water.
- Do not use foil or metal in the microwave.

Please advise Westwinds Communities of damaged property due to a fire. Tenants are responsible for any fire damage to a unit and appliances.

Cooking with Grease or Oil

- Kitchen fires from grease or cooking oil are fast spreading and destructive.
- If deep frying foods at home, the safest method is to use a controlled electric skillet or deep fryer.

- If pan frying food, keep a baking tray or pan lid close in case of fire. The tray or lid can be used to smother a small fire.
- Be careful to not fan a fire with the tray or lid, fanning the flames will cause it to spread.

For a Range Top Fire

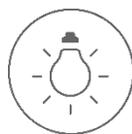
- Turn off the heat and put a lid/cookie sheet on the fire.
- Use a fire extinguisher or baking soda to stop flames.
- Do not use water in a grease fire.

For an Oven Fire

- Turn off the heat and keep the door closed. Wait until the oven is completely cooled before opening the oven door.

For a Microwave Fire

- Keep the microwave door closed and unplug the microwave if the cord is accessible. Wait until the fire goes out and the microwave cools before disposing of your own microwave. Tenant owned, damaged microwaves must be replaced.



Don't try to put out fires yourself. Evacuate your home and get outside to call 911. Close the door, if possible, to prevent the fire from spreading.