Did you know...? **Thanksgiving is** the peak day of the year for cooking-related

fires.

The NFPA says the number of cooking fires on Thanksgiving is 3x higher than on any other day of the year.

The most common causes of cooking fires are...

- Leaving food unattended while it's cooking
- Faulty cooking equipment
- Kids or pets in the kitchen
- A cluttered kitchen
- Overloaded electrical outlets

Cooking Fire Prevention Tips:

- Before using a slow cooker or another small appliance, check that their cords are not damaged.
- Never use extension cords that are frayed or worn.
- Don't leave the house while your turkey is cooking, and check on it frequently.
- Only use a fryer outdoors.
- Stay in the kitchen whenever the stove is in use.
- Keep flammable items away from the stovetop, including oven mitts, towels, cook books, and wooden utensils.
- When cooking in a pot or pan, turn its handle toward the back of the stove to avoid someone bumping into it.
- Keep a lid close by in case you have to smother a small grease fire on your stove.

Cooking Fire Prevention Tips:

- If a fire starts in the oven, turn off the heat and keep the door closed. Call 911 if the fire does not eventually go out on its own.
- If kids or pets are passing through the kitchen, keep them at least three feet away from the stove.
- Make sure cords from slow cookers, electric knives, coffee makers, or other small kitchen appliances are not dangling off the counter for children or pets to grab.
- It's best to avoid cooking when you feel drowsy or have consumed alcohol.
- Make sure the kitchen floor stays clear of any tripping hazards.
- Once you're done in the kitchen for the day, make sure your stove, oven, and small kitchen appliances are off.

Have a safe & happy Thanksgiving!



