



LET'S TALK FIRE SAFETY

Valdosta Fire Department

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Campus & Dorm Fire Safety

Campus Fire Facts:

From 2011-2015, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated annual average of 4,100 structure fires in dormitories, fraternities, sororities, and other related properties.

These fires caused annual averages of 35 civilian injuries and \$14 million in direct property damage.

September and October were the peak months for fires in dormitory properties, and they are more common during the evening hours between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Cooking equipment was involved in nearly nine out of ten reported fires in dormitory-type properties (87%).

From 2000 - present, 92 fatal fires have been documented that occurred on a college campus, in Greek housing or in off-campus housing within 3-miles of the campus - claiming a total of 132 victims.

From January 2000 - May 2015, smoke alarms were either missing or tampered with (disconnected or battery removed) in 58 percent of fatal



campus fires.

Safety Tips

- Look for fully sprinklered housing when choosing a dorm or off-campus housing.
- Make sure you can hear the building alarm system when you are in your dorm room.
- If you live in a dormitory, make sure your bedroom has a working smoke alarm, or your dormitory suite has a working smoke alarm in

each living area.

- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Never remove batteries or disable the alarm.
- Learn your building's evacuation plan and practice all drills as if they were the real thing.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking.
- Cook only when you are alert, not sleepy or drowsy from medicine or alcohol.
- Check your school's rules before using electrical appliances in your room.
- Check with your local fire department for any restrictions before using a barbeque grill or fire pit.

National Fire Protection Association

<https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/Property-type-and-vehicles/Campus-and-dorm-fires>

Photo courtesy of Baylor University.

"Many of life's failures are people who had not realized how close they were to success when they gave up."

- Thomas A. Edison

Fires in dormitories are more common during the evening hours, between 5-11 pm, and on weekends.

Burn candles only if the school permits their use. A candle is an open flame and should be placed away from anything that can burn. Never leave a candle unattended. Blow it out when you leave the room or go to sleep.

Have a fire safety question you would like for the Fire Department to answer? Please contact Ms. Tangela Rowe at 229-333-1835 or you can send an email to: valdostafire@valdostacity.com

Solve the Fire Wuzzles

WUZZLES are word puzzles consisting of combinations of words, letters, figures or symbols positioned to create disguised words, phrases, names, places, sayings, etc.

For example, the solution to NOON GOOD is "Good afternoon" and LINE READ LINE is "Read between the lines."

ENDS↔ENDS NOON NAP

Answers to last month's wuzzles are middle school & history repeats itself.

Fire Safety Quiz

1. Because college students are usually older, it is not as important to practice fire safety on campuses or in dorm rooms as it is at the grade school level.
 - A. True
 - B. False
2. _____ is campus fire safety month.
 - A. September
 - B. January
 - C. October
 - D. December

Answers to last month's quiz are 1. A. & 2. B.



Freddie D. Broome, Fire Chief