



U.S. Fire Administration  
Working for a fire-safe America

## Fire Safety Resources: November

**Make fire safety part of every recipe.**

**Cook Safely!**  
**Prevent Kitchen Fires**

**Did you know?**  
Each year, from 2016 to 2018, fire departments responded to an estimated average of **189,300** home cooking fires.

**These fires caused an estimated:**

- 170** deaths
- 3,300** injuries
- \$443 million** in property loss

FEMA U.S. Fire Administration

Cooking is, by far, the leading cause of all home fires and home fire injuries. Thanksgiving Day has proven to be a particularly dangerous day; the average number of fires nearly doubles.

You can glean more insight into the findings from [2014-2016 Thanksgiving Fire in Residential Buildings data snapshot](#).

Take this opportunity to share [cooking fire safety](#) information and resources or share [USFA's social cards](#) on your social media accounts.

## Train with the best to be the best

[Apply now](#) and join your peers at YOUR National Fire Academy! The application period is now open for the second semester (April 1 - Sept. 30, 2022)! Apply now through Dec. 15.

# If you fry, fry safely!

Recipe for  
**Preventing Turkey Fryer Fires**



When you fry foods, you increase the risk of a cooking fire. Keep in mind the potential dangers of deep frying a turkey:

- ✓ Use your turkey fryer only outdoors on a sturdy, level surface well away from things that can burn.
- ✓ Check the temperature often with a cooking thermometer so the oil won't overheat.
- ✓ Determine the correct amount of oil needed by first placing the turkey in the pot with water.
- ✓ Use long cooking gloves that protect hands and arms when you handle the pot, lid and handles of a turkey fryer.
- ✓ Make sure your turkey is completely thawed before you fry it.

For more information and free resources, visit [usfa.fema.gov](https://www.usfa.fema.gov).



A unique risk during Thanksgiving is turkey fryers. There are 5 risks involved with frying a turkey:

1. Turkey fryers can easily tip over spilling hot oil across a large area.
2. An overfilled cooking pot will cause oil to spill over when the turkey is put inside.
3. A partially frozen turkey will cause hot oil to splatter when put in the pot.
4. Without thermostat controls, turkey fryers can overheat oil to the point of starting a fire.
5. The sides of the cooking pot, lid and pot handles can get dangerously hot.

The U.S. Center for Product Safety Commission (CPSC) created a [video](#) you can share to illustrate these risks.

To help your community understand the risks, share the following turkey fryer safety messages:

- Make sure your turkey fryer is on a sturdy, level surface and do not move it once it is in use.
- Make sure your turkey fryer is at least 10 feet from your home and not under roof eaves.
- Make sure your turkey is fully thawed without frost on it before you fry it. (USFA says 24 hours for every 4 to 5 pounds.)

- Consider using an electric or air fryer.
- If your turkey fryer does not have a thermostat, use a kitchen thermometer that attaches to the side of the pot. This will help you monitor the temperature of the oil.
- Test the amount of oil you need by filling your fryer with water. Place the turkey in the pot making sure the water covers the turkey by about ½ inch. Remove and dry turkey. Mark the water level. Dump water, dry the pot and fill with oil to the marked level.
- Always use protective oven mitts. Keep children and pets at least 3 feet from the turkey fryer.

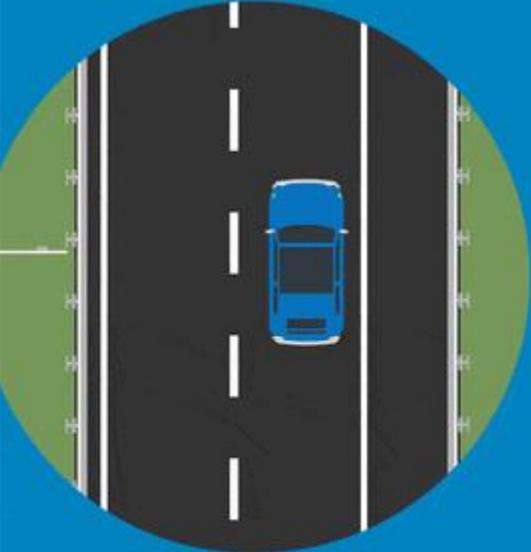
You can also share [USDA's Let's Talk Turkey](#) infographic to help people understand food safety risks.

## Fires increase around Halloween

For each year from 2017 to 2019, an estimated average of 9,200 fires were reported to fire departments in the United States over a 3-day period around Halloween. These fires caused an estimated annual average of 25 deaths, 100 injuries and \$117 million in property loss.<sup>1</sup>



## Crash Responder Safety Week



**Motorists:  
Move over for  
emergency  
responders!**

When you see emergency lights,  
slow down and move over to  
keep working responders safe.



Did you know, so far this year, 50 responders have been killed when struck by a vehicle as they responded to a roadway incident.

The goal of Crash Responder Safety Week is to reach out to emergency responders, drivers and passengers to educate them on how to ensure our first responders are safe when they respond to an incident.

Use the [social media toolkit](#) from the National Operations Center of Excellence to get the word out!

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# New reports profile home fires

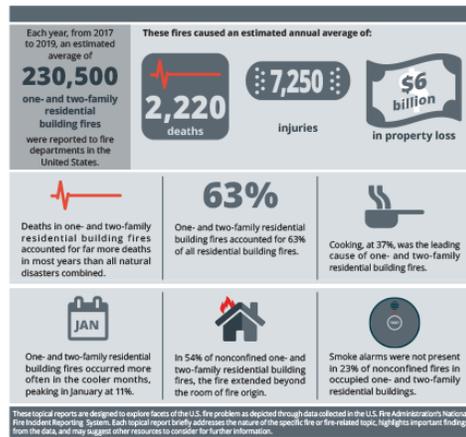
The residential building portion of the fire problem accounts for the vast majority of civilian casualties. The new topical reports cover 1- and 2-family residential building and multi-family fires reported to the National Fire Incident Reporting System for 2017-2019.

Topical Fire Report Series

July 2021 | Volume 21, Issue 6

At a Glance

## One- and Two-Family Residential Building Fires (2017-2019)



To read the full report, visit [usfa.fema.gov](https://usfa.fema.gov).



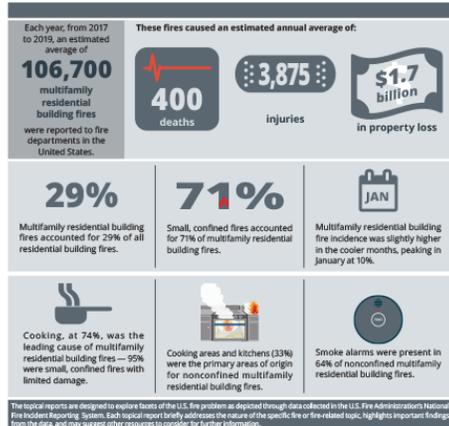
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Topical Fire Report Series

August 2021 | Volume 21, Issue 7

At a Glance

## Multifamily Residential Building Fires (2017-2019)



To read the full report, visit [usfa.fema.gov](https://usfa.fema.gov).



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## Fire is Everyone's Fight®

There are dozens of ways you can use Fire Is Everyone's Fight to help teach people in your city or town to be safe from fire. [Join the fight](#) for a few ideas to get you started.

