University Housing at CSUDH is proud to report that among all of the CSU’s, we continue to be one of the safest of the Residential Communities. This is due to the ongoing & concerted efforts of the professional staff and the specially trained Resident Advisors (RA’s).

Around the nation, other campuses have not been as fortunate. National reports show that at least 52 students have died over the past three years while attending college, and 80 percent of fires were caused by careless smoking, unattended candles, cooking, and overloaded extension cords & power outlets.

A lot of unnecessary deaths, injuries & property damage can be avoided by following some very simple rules.

* Make sure that your smoke detector light is always on.
* Make an escape plan in case fire does strike.
* Make sure that your Fire Extinguisher is always charged.

**Bedrooms:**
Don’t— Smoke in the bed or anyplace in the apartment. All University Housing apartments are understood to be non-smoking. The state Chancellor’s office requires smokers to remain a minimum of 25 feet away from all buildings & building entrances.

Don’t— Place heaters within 3 feet of flammable materials.

Don’t— Use heaters to dry clothes; safety is everybody’s responsibility!!!

Don’t— Use extension cords with portable heaters.

Don’t— Use candles or incense in any portion of the apartment.

Don’t— Use halogen or floor lamps in bedrooms or anywhere else in the apartment; they pose a significant fire risk.

*Do: Unplug all heaters, curling irons & other electrical devices when they are not in use.

**Kitchen Area:**
Don’t— Leave food cooking & unattended on the stove or in ovens or microwave ovens.

Don’t— Leave coffee pots and/or hot plates plugged in overnight.

Don’t— Let grease build-up on the stove or in microwave ovens.

Don’t— Let crumbs build-up in your toaster.

Don’t— Overload electrical outlets with appliances.

Don’t— Leave hand towels (of any kind), near open flames.

*Do: Check all kitchen appliances prior to going to bed.

The safety of all student residents is the number one consideration of University Housing; Kitchen Fire Safety is number two.

Kitchen accidents account for countless injuries & deaths each year. It is the responsibility of each student resident, to make sure to do their part in helping keep kitchen related fires & accidents from occurring.

**Kitchen Vent-Hoods:**
*Do: Keep exhaust fan on while cooking.

*Do: Clean off the Vent-Hood after cooking to prevent grease build-up.

*Do: Clean all spills and practice good housekeeping.

*Do: Remove all combustibles from all the heated or hot surfaces.

**Microwave Ovens:**
*Never— Leave food unattended.

Don’t— Use metal or plastic materials.

*Do: Follow all manufacturer’s recommendations for microwave cooking.

*Never: Use a Microwave Oven to dry clothes, paper or any art project, etc.

**Electrical Safety:**
A) **Appliances:** Unplug all portables when unattended. Keep electrical cords away from hot surfaces, water, & near sinks. Always look to see the condition of all electrical cords. Do not use extension cords if they have been cut, spliced or have missing ground prongs.

*No: Flammable liquids stored near any electrical or ignition source.

*Never: Use frayed or cracked electrical cords.

*Never: Run power cords across traffic paths, or under rugs or furniture.

*Never: Tack or nail extension cords to any surface.

*Never: Overload electrical outlets or extension cords.

* Do not use extension cords on a continuous basis.