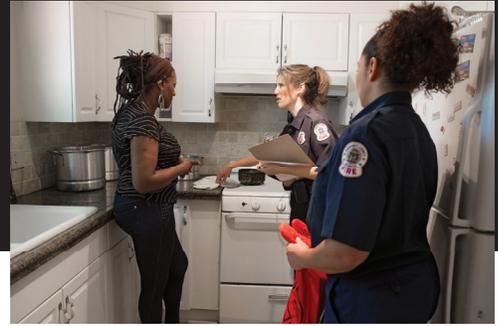


FIRE SERVICE GUIDE

Investing in Cooking Fire Prevention for Effective Community Risk Reduction Outcomes



According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)¹, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and is responsible for almost half of all reported home fires. It is also the leading cause of home fire injuries, the second leading cause of home fire deaths, and causes more than \$1 billion in direct property damage every year.

A community risk assessment of local data will likely point to home cooking fires as a serious problem in your jurisdiction.

Why Make Cooking Fire Prevention a Priority?

- The NFPA has identified that, nationally, ranges or cooktops were involved in 78% of cooking fire injuries and 87% of deaths.
- 74% of all fires in multi-family residences are the result of cooking.²
- 55% of all hotel and motel fires are caused by cooking.²
- Nearly 9 out of every 10 fires in dormitory-type properties are caused by cooking.³
- Households that use electric ranges have a higher risk of cooking fires and associated losses than those using gas ranges.
- As more people stay home because of COVID-19, more people are cooking at home than before. As a result, the incidence of reported home cooking fires has increased in many jurisdictions across North America.
- Prevention works. The cooking fire that never happens saves lives, property, time, and money.

Develop a Cooking Fire Risk Assessment for the Community

- Identify the leading cause(s) of reported home cooking fires in your jurisdiction.
- Identify target audiences. Cooking fires are dangerous for everyone; but some populations have a higher risk.
 - Seniors:
 - People aged 55-64 have the largest share of home cooking fire deaths.
 - The risk of dying in a cooking fire is 5.5 times greater for those aged 85 and older than for the overall population.
 - Young Adults – the highest rate of cooking fire injuries is among people aged 20-34.
 - Males – Males had slightly more than half of all home cooking fire injuries and deaths (NFPA).
- Identify high-risk locations: i.e., those with the most reported cooking-related fires or highest emergency-response volumes.

Examples:

- Large multi-family apartments/buildings,
- Public housing,
- Seniors' residences,
- Housing with vulnerable populations – people with physical and/or cognitive disabilities, and
- Student housing on- or off-campus.

Cooking Fire Prevention Programs that Combine Both Education and Engineered Solutions

PIONEERING TECHNOLOGY SMARTBURNER™ FACT SHEET

Includes data, facts, safety tips and SmartBurner™ technology information. Share it with building owners, property managers and other property decision makers.

- Saturate target locations/audiences with relevant educational outreach materials.
- Visit properties to help identify cooking fire dangers and high-risk behaviors/residents. Reach out to stakeholders who can help you reach these populations.

Examples:

- Local housing authorities
- Social service groups/agencies
- Seniors' residences
- Colleges/Universities
- Multi-family apartments
- Directly engage building owners and managers, other property decision makers, or financial controllers.
- Offer cooking safety outreach.
- Lead/Encourage/Support the comprehensive installation of proven prevention technology.

Examples:

- SmartBurner™ for electric coil stove tops.
- SmartRange™ for smooth top ranges.
- SmartMicro™ for microwave ovens.
- Follow model methods from Vision 20/20 and others for creating and implementing cooking fire safety programs.



PIONEERING TECHNOLOGY SMARTBURNER™ FACT SHEET (link to Fact Sheet)

Includes data, facts, safety tips and SmartBurner technology information. Share it with property owners or managers and other property decision makers.

Three High-Risk Occupancy Case Studies Use SMARTBURNER™ Technology With Significant Life-Safety Results

- Learn/Share information about cooking fire prevention solutions:
 - Share these case studies and other articles and blogs
 - Listen to podcasts from other CRR professionals
 - Distribute information kits
- Consider funding opportunities, including FEMA grants.
- Make the case for return on investment – cooking fire prevention saves money for owners and property managers.
- Partner with other CRR advocates such as Housing Authorities, insurance companies, and social service providers in your jurisdiction for greater success.



Learn how fire departments use **SMARTBURNER™** to reduce residential cooking fires.
(add case study link)

¹ Home Cooking Fires, NFPA, Marty Ahrens, July 2020
<https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/News-and-Research/Fire-statistics-and-reports/US-Fire-Problem/Fire-causes/oscooking.pdf>

² Multifamily Residential Building Fires (2013-2015). USFA.
<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v18i3.pdf>

³ Structure Fires in Dormitories, Fraternities, Sororities and Barracks, NFPA, Marty Ahrens, August 2017.
<https://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Data-research-and-tools/Building-and-Life-Safety/Dormitories-fraternities-sororities-and-barracks>

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