

Fire Safety (Protection) Systems

Residence Hall facilities are equipped with fire alarm systems, including smoke and heat detectors, manual pull stations, and signaling devices (e.g. fire alarm horns, speakers and strobes.). In addition to sounding a local alarm, each Residence Hall fire alarm panel communicates with a central monitoring station located in University Police headquarters, where trained personnel continuously monitor the panel for alarm and trouble conditions. Most of our fire alarm systems are fully addressable (single-point detection), and have voice capability. Fire extinguishers are located throughout the Residence Halls. Sprinkler systems are provided as noted in the Fire Protection System table. Buildings with partial sprinkler systems have sprinklers located in trash rooms, utility closets and certain common areas.

Residential Fire Protection System			
	Hastings Hall	McGiffert Hall	Other (common spaces)
Extinguishers	✓	✓	✓
Full Sprinklers			
Partial Sprinklers	✓	✓	
Fire Alarm	✓	✓	✓
Voice			(administration only)

Cooking Fire Safety Tips:

- Never leave cooking food unattended. Unattended meals and burning pots on stove-tops are the number one cause of cooking fires.
- Wear short or close-fitting sleeves. Loose clothing can catch fire.
- **Clean cooking surfaces to prevent food and grease build-up.**
- Keep curtains, towels and pot holders away from hot surfaces.
- Store solvents and flammable cleaners away from heat sources.
- Turn pan handles inward to prevent accidental spilling.
- Slide a pan lid over flames to smother a grease or oil fire, then turn off the heat and leave the lid in place until the pan cools. Never carry the pan to the sink or outside; you may spread the fire that way.
- Make sure a dry chemical fire extinguisher is located near the cooking area. (These are the red ones ABC type)
- Never use water or flour on grease fires.
- Do not place hot pots directly from the fire on the Formica
- Close the oven door and shut off the heat to smother an oven or broiler fire.

If you are awakened by the sound of a fire alarm:

- Don't sit up!
- If you smell or see smoke, roll out of your bed.
- If you see smoke, stay low and crawl to the door.
- Feel the door to see if it is hot.
- If the door is not hot, kneel against the door and open it slightly.
- Check the hall for smoke and flames.
- If no smoke or flames, calmly walk to the fire exit. If there is smoke, crawl along the floor of the corridor to the fire exit, staying low. If there are flames in the hallway, close the door and remain in the room. Call 911 or 1427 from any campus phone and wave out a window for help.
- If you are able to leave the building, do so and do not re-enter until an authorized person signals it is safe.

Current and Future Improvements

The Campus continues the process of modifying all fire alarm systems to improve our Communications and Fire Alarm Systems. We recently added horn strobe devices throughout the Social Hall, Refectory, Union Food Lab, Pub, and Lampman Chapel areas, which required we add an entire fire panel to the current system. We also just completed the change-out from the archaic bell system in McGiffert for all fire alarm notifications, to the modern horn sounding devices the same as we currently have in the Administration and Hastings buildings. The Administration and Facilities Team will continue to look for ways to improve our Fire Alarm systems and implement those improvements wherever feasible.