

Fire Safety in your Rental

STAYING SAFE AND PREVENTING FIRES IN BOZEMAN RENTALS

U.S. Fire Facts from the US Fire Administration

> 50%

PERCENT OF FIRES THAT START IN RESIDENTIAL KITCHENS

2790

NUMBER OF DEATHS RESULTING FROM RESIDENTIAL FIRES IN 2018

379,600

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL FIRES IN 2018

HOW DO I PREVENT A HOUSE FIRE?

Keep Your Home or Rental Fire Smart!

- Clean out dryer lint.
- Keep exits and hallways clear.
- Use flameless candles or blow them out whenever leaving a room.

Cook Carefully!

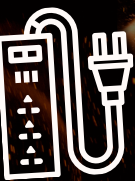
- Stay in the kitchen when using stoves and ovens.
- Keep flammable items (like oven mitts and dish towels) away from stovetops.
- Never use water on a grease fire! If you attempt to fight it, use an extinguisher or smother it with a heavy towel.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in your kitchen! (BC rated extinguishers are recommended for kitchen fires)

Smoke Safer!

- Always smoke outside.
- Never discard cigarettes in vegetation. Put them in a deep, sturdy ashtray and/or douse them with water or sand.
- Never leave charging E-Cigarettes unattended.

Be Cautious of Electrical Outlets!

- Only use one appliance per outlet.
- Major appliances should never be plugged into extension cords.
- Double check that light bulbs have the right wattage for the fixture.
- Don't overload outlets, extension cords, or power strips!



WHAT SHOULD YOU LOOK FOR IN A FIRE SAFE RENTAL? (BEFORE SIGNING A LEASE!)

Check for working smoke detectors and sprinkler systems! (You need at least one detector on each level, but one in every room is the goal!)
Smoke detectors should be replaced after 10 years, double check with the landlord that they are up to date.

Make sure every exit door can be opened from the inside without a key!
Also check that exits remain clear and nothing would hinder you from escaping during a fire.



Ask what kind of fire extinguisher is present or if you need to get your own! (An ABC rated fire extinguisher is the standard for residential)
The owner should have one but it is up to you to make sure you're protected!



Is there a CO2 detector?
You should have one on each level (especially important to have one outside any sleeping rooms) and one in the garage!

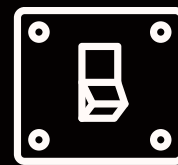
Does the residence have an official address and unit number?
When homes are converted to multi-unit residences, sometimes the new unit address is not available to emergency responders, making it difficult to find in an emergency.

Make sure all windows open wide enough and are large enough to get through in an emergency!
Some basement bedrooms may need window wells installed to be fire safe (especially if the basement has been converted into an apartment).



CONTACT YOUR LANDLORD AND/OR AN ELECTRICIAN IF:

- You have frequent blown fuses or tripped circuit breakers.
- There is discoloration or heat on/around wall outlets.
- You smell burning or rubbery smells from appliances.
- Lights dim or flicker.
- There are sparks coming from an outlet.
- You feel tingles when touching an appliance.



The City of Bozeman has created a program for voluntary rental unit fire inspections through the Fire Marshall Division! Ask your landlord if they have participated in this program or if they're willing to have an inspection completed at no cost. The best way is to involve your landlord in this process but if they are unwilling, reach out for more information at:

<https://www.bozeman.net/government/fire/safety-and-prevention>

For more information on being fire safe go to campusfiresafety.org or nfpa.org