



## Cooking.....Be Safe not Sorry!!!



In many homes, the busiest room in the house is the kitchen. For many families, this is the place where everyone congregates to share meals and interact with one another. Unfortunately, the kitchen is also one of the most dangerous rooms in the house. Statistically, 44 percent of all home fires start in the kitchen. Furthermore, cooking equipment is the leading cause of home fires and fire injuries, and ranges and cooktops account for the majority (62%) of home cooking fire incidents. Multitasking while cooking is never a good idea, as unattended equipment lead to 33 percent of reported home cooking fires and half of the associated deaths. The most recent data indicates that every year, cooking fires result in \$1.1 billion in direct property damage.

I am sure you can guess the day that incurs the most home cooking fires... that's right, Thanksgiving. Christmas Day and Christmas Eve comes in second and third on the list.

**Below are some cooking safety tips that will keep you and your family safe while preparing those delicious meals:**

- Be on alert!! If you are tired and exhausted, do not use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, broiling, or boiling food.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, make sure and check it regularly. You should always remain in the kitchen while cooking and use a timer to remind you.
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from the stovetop. Items such as wooden or plastic utensils, oven mitts, food packaging, and towels can easily catch fire if they are too close to the stovetop.
- Open microwaved food slowly, and keep food away from your face.
- Keep pets off cooking surfaces.
- Have a kid-free zone of at least three feet around the stove and anything hot and never hold your child while you are cooking or carrying something hot.
- Make sure smoke alarms are installed in the kitchen, inside of each bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the house.

**Below are some tips in the event you have a cooking fire:**

- Just get out. When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number you have.
- Keep a lid nearby when you are cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled. It is important to note, never pour water on a grease fire.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed. Keeping the door closed will help keep the fire contained.
- If you try and fight the fire, make sure others are getting out of the house and you have a clear path out.

If you are preparing the meal this Thanksgiving or socializing around the kitchen, make sure and keep an eye out to ensure your grand feast does not go up in flames. Until next time my friends, be prepared and stay safe.

The Gerloff Company, GCI Remediation, and Gerloff Floors and Fixtures wishes you all a Happy Thanksgiving.

# November 2018

## Events

November 1: SAABE Lunch and Learn  
 November 7: AAFAME Luncheon  
 November 8: IREM Luncheon  
 November 13: SACA Luncheon  
 November 15: SAABE Luncheon  
 November 15: CAMO  
 November 20: IWSA Luncheon  
 November 21: IIASA Luncheon  
 November 21: SA BOMA Luncheon  
 November 22: Thanksgiving Day  
 November 23: Office Closed

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday             | Wednesday                                  | Thursday                                | Friday              | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------------------|--|---|---------------------|----------|
|        |        |                     |  | 1<br>SAABE<br>Lunch n Learn             | 2                   | 3        |
| 4      | 5      | 6                   | 7<br>AAFAME<br>Luncheon                    | 8<br>IREM Luncheon                      | 9                   | 10       |
| 11     | 12     | 13<br>SACA Luncheon | 14   | 15<br>SAABE Luncheon<br>CAMO Luncheon   | 16                  | 17       |
| 18     | 19     | 20<br>IWSA Luncheon | 21<br>IIASA Luncheon<br>SABOMA<br>Luncheon | 22<br>Thanksgiving Day<br>Office Closed | 23<br>Office Closed | 24       |
| 25     | 26     | 27                  | 28   | 29                                      | 30                  |          |

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