



Fire Facts

A business owner recently commented that his staff was using space heaters to keep the office warm this fall/winter. His staff locked up the office the other night and one employee had forgotten to turn off their space heater. Around 11 p.m he received a call that one of the curtains was too close to the space heater and caught fire.

Space heaters left unsupervised cause thousands of fires each year. Make sure flammable materials are kept away and space heaters are not left unattended this winter.

DID YOU KNOW?

- There are approximately 374,000 residential fires per year in the U.S
- Residential fires in the U.S cause 7 billion in property losses per year
- Cooking & home-heating cause 72% of all residential fires
- Ranges are the most likely appliance to set fire in your home
- In 2018, 38% of battery operated smoke detectors did not sound during fires

Tips to Avoid Major Losses

- Keep and know how to use a fire extinguisher
- Only use extension cords as temporary solutions
- Update electrical systems to reduce chances of an electrical fire
- Don't ignore signs of trouble:
 - Sparks when device plugs in
 - Burn marks or discoloration around socket, light switch
 - Breaker frequently trips or fuses regularly blow
- Check batteries and test smoke detectors frequently

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