

Take Fire Alarms Seriously

- **NEVER** ignore fire alarms.
- **NEVER** wait to see fire or smell smoke.
- **NEVER** worry about grabbing your stuff.

Be
Responsible...

Plan

Act

LIVE

Home Inspection Checklist

- Check electrical appliances and wiring for frayed wires. They can cause fires.
- Replace worn or damaged cords.
- Keep electrical appliances away from wet floors or counters, especially in the bathroom and kitchen.
- Use electrical appliances with the Underwriter's Laboratory seal for safety.
- NEVER overload extension cords or wall sockets.
- Shut off and professionally replace light switches that are hot to touch or lights that flicker.
- Have a smoke detector IN your bedroom and OUTside your bedroom. Sleep with the door closed.
- Know your exits.
- Recognize that holiday decorations have started fatal fires.
- Keep barbecue grills away from buildings or combustibles.
- Use fireplace screens/doors.
- Keep smoking areas clean.
- Dispose of butts in non-combustible containers away from paper or flammables.

**FIRE
SAFETY**

Questions? On campus residents
Call EHS – see below
Off-campus: Contact the Bellingham Fire
Department at 676-6832

Environmental Health and Safety
Environmental Studies 72 Mail Stop 9070
Bellingham WA 98225

Phone: 360-650-3064 ☐ Fax: 360-650-6514
Email: ehs@wwu.edu ☐ Web: www.wwu.edu/depts/ehs/



Fire Safety
for
Your LIFE



This is a resident's room in Mathes Hall after the November 1997 fire. NO ONE was injured. EVERYONE got out immediately.
Learn what to do. Save your own life!

STUDENTS

Fire/Medical Aid/Police 911

University Police 3911

CASAS 650-3700

(Confidential support following sexual assault or other violent crime)

Chemical Emergency 650-3064



Resident room in Mathes after the 1997 fire.

FIRE

- 1 Notify persons in the area.
- 2 Evacuate the building.
- 3 Pull the nearest fire alarm or call 911 from a safe place.
- 4 Use a fire extinguisher, if trained.
- 5 Close doors and windows, if possible.
- 6 Assemble in a safe place.
- 7 Meet and inform responders.
- 8 Provide assistance.

CLOTHING FIRE

“STOP, DROP AND ROLL”

GETTING OUT

FEEL THE DOOR HANDLE

- If the handle is hot, don't open it.
- Go to a window and call for help.
- If the handle is NOT hot, open cautiously.
- Check for smoke or fire before going out.

GET OUT OF THE BUILDING

BEFORE PHONING FOR HELP

- Don't take time to phone before leaving.
- Get out and find a phone.

PULL THE FIRE ALARM ON YOUR WAY OUT

DON'T LOOK FOR OTHER PEOPLE OR GATHER STUFF

- Knock on doors as you leave.
- Yell “FIRE” as you leave.
- Don't hesitate or stray from your path as you leave.

CRAWL LOW TO THE FLOOR

- Thick smoke can make it impossible to see.
- Toxic chemicals in smoke can be deadly in minutes.

CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND YOU

- You may help keep the fire from spreading.
- You may protect your possessions from fire and smoke damage.

GET SOMEONE'S ATTENTION

- **YELL and SCREAM!**
- Hang a sheet from a window.
- Stay low. There is less smoke and toxic gas close to the floor.
- WAIT, never panic or jump.

PREVENTION

- Take responsibility for protecting **your** life.
- Take trash outside.
- Never overload electrical outlets.
- Use power strips plugged directly into outlets.
- Keep space heaters and halogen lamps AWAY from flammables – clothing or paper.
- Put out candles when unattended (**NOT** permitted in residence halls).
- Put out incense when unattended.
- Extinguish smoking materials.
- NEVER smoke when in bed or tired.

PROTECTION

CHECK SMOKE ALARMS

- Be sure they are in proper working condition.
- In off-campus housing, install new batteries every quarter and test monthly.
- In residence halls, smoke alarms connect to the electrical system and don't need batteries.

PLAN ESCAPE ROUTES

- Know where all exits are located in your building (including open-able windows).
- KNOW 2 EXITS from where you sleep.
- Practice your plan.
- Tell your roommates about your plan.