



Washington State Patrol

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

Serving Washington Since 1901

*****For Immediate Release*****

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Government and Media Relations

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Cooking Safety

Olympia – Food can bring us together as a family, sharing special moments with friends, and some of our best memories can happen in the kitchen. However, mistakes in the kitchen can also create great loss. The leading cause of all residential building fires is cooking, accounting for 44%, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Over a third of these fires were from unattended equipment. As a community we can implement safer practices to prevent these avoidable fires.

Please keep a few things in mind when cooking:

- Keep an eye on the food you are cooking.
- Never leave equipment unattended.
- Keep flammable items away from any heat source.
- Ensure your home is equipped with a working smoke alarm.
- Keep a fire extinguish readily available and know how to use it.
- Keep your stovetop clean.
- Keep clothing away from the burners or heat sources.
- Establish a safe zone out of harm's way in case of fires.
- Do not place foil or metal in the microwave.
- If the fire doesn't go out- get out and call 911.

If you'd like more information on safe cooking practices, [click here](#).

For more information, contact the State Fire Marshal's Office at (360) 596-3904.

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The State Fire Marshal's Office is a Bureau of the Washington State Patrol, providing fire and life safety services to the citizens of Washington State. These services include public education, licensing and certification of the fire sprinkler, fireworks, and cigarette industries, data collection and analysis, fire and life safety inspections for state facilities, plan review of school construction projects, all-risk mobilization of statewide fire service resources, hazardous materials training, and the training and certification of firefighters.

www.wsp.wa.gov/state-fire-marshals-office/