

# Thanksgiving #1 Day for Home Fires

There are more home fires on Thanksgiving Day than any other day of the year. Thanksgiving is a wonderful family holiday, but the day can be ruined with a cooking or candle fire, a burn injury or a carbon monoxide incident from long-term use of the oven. Every home should have working smoke and carbon monoxide(CO) alarms.

## Don't Let Fire Ruin Your Holiday

Not surprisingly, there were twice as many cooking fires as the next busiest day, December 25. Much of the day's celebration is focusing on food and food preparation. A family centered holiday does not need to be ruined by fire by following these safety tips:

- Use a timer when baking or roasting and never leave the house with the oven running.
- Remember to "stand by your pan" and stay in the kitchen when boiling, frying or broiling.
- The best way to respond to a stovetop fire is to "put a lid on it" and turn off the heat.
- The best way to respond to an oven or broiler fire is to keep the doors closed and turn off the heat.
- Keep pot handles turned inward to prevent accidental spills of hot contents.
- Wear short or tight fitting sleeves when cooking. Loose fitting clothing can easily catch fire.
- Create a 3-foot "child-free zone" around the stove.
- Keep combustible objects such as pot holders, towels, paper or plastic bags away from heating elements.
- Burn candles inside a 1-foot circle of safety free of anything that can burn.
- Keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children.
- Let guests know the safest ways to exit in case of an emergency.
- Make sure all smoke and CO alarms are working prior to the holiday.

