

FIRE SAFETY



PRACTICE INCREASES PREPAREDNESS

CREATING A SAFETY FIRST CULTURE

PURPOSE

Fire Safety and Prevention is to

- educate participants on how to avoid fires and fire related injuries.
- create awareness of fire deaths and injuries and their common causes.
- inform participants of their personal responsibility toward fire safety and injury prevention.

Fire Hazards on Campus

Smoking Material- Carelessness with cigarettes, matches, etc., accounts for the greatest number of residence hall fires.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES IS SMOKING PERMITTED IN ANY UNIVERISTY BUILDINGS.

Flame- Candles can be dangerous. Leaving them burning unattended or too close to combustible materials can lead to fires. **Candles are not allowed in any residence hall.**

Decorations- Some decorations ignite easily and allow a fire to spread rapidly. These include holiday decorations, large posters, filmy curtains, and flammables tacked to the ceiling.

Make sure all electrical devices, including lighting and extension cords are UL-approved

Arson- Setting fires on purpose is the leading cause of campus fires. Arson is a serious crime that can result in unnecessary deaths.

Fire Hazards on Campus Cont.

Appliances- Careless use of heat-producing appliances can start fires.

RESIDENTIAL HOUSING

- Hot plates left on, unattended, or with grease build up on coils.
- Electric blankets left on when resident is not in bed.
- Irons left on, lying down, unattended, or used on a bed.
- Toaster ovens left on, with accumulated grease, or unattended.
- Hair dryers laid down while they are on or used to dry clothes.
- Portable space heaters placed near combustibles like curtains or used to dry clothes.

LABORATORIES AND OTHER AREAS

Certain heating tools and equipment

Why do we contact GSU Police First

- If fire fighters are called out on a false alarm, they will not be available to fight a real fire.

Contacting the GSU police first helps to prevent unnecessary calls to the Fire Department.

WE UNDERSTAND that **FALSE ALARMS** create a mood of apathy so you may not react quickly enough to save your life if there is a real fire.

However, as employees and students, we must actively respond and evacuate until clearance is given.

Activation of FIRE ALARMS

Activation of the protective system shall occur by any or all of the following means but not limited thereto:

- Manual fire alarm initiation
- Automatic heat detection
- Automatic smoke detection
- Extinguishing system operations

Location of FIRE ALARMS

Each manual fire alarm station of a system shall be accessible, unobstructed, visible, and of the same general type.

Audible alarm indicating devices shall be of such character and so distributed as to be effectively heard above the ambient noise level obtained under normal conditions of occupancy.

The fire alarm and heat/smoke detection system shall be tested periodically and the results of the test recorded. The general evacuation alarm shall operate throughout the entire building.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Each employee shall:

- Know where alarms are located and learn how to activate them.
- Alert as many people in the building as possible and evacuate the building when you hear a fire alarm.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS- GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Fire extinguishers are designed to fight small fires.

- Find out where they are located and what kind of fires they are designed to fight.
- Do not block access to extinguishers.
- Report all extinguishers that are missing, damaged, or have been discharged.
- Do not empty fire extinguishers as a prank.
- Extinguishers mounted in cabinets, wall recesses, or brackets shall be placed in such a manner that the operating instructions shall face outward. Extinguishers shall not be obstructed or obscured from view, and cabinets housing extinguishers shall not be locked.

HOW TO USE EXTINGUISHER, remember P A S S.

Pull the pin. (Some may require pressing a puncture lever or releasing a lock hatch.)

Aim the extinguisher nozzle or cone at the base of the fire.

Squeeze or press the handle.

Sweep from side to side at the base of the fire until it appears to be out.

EXIT AND MEANS OF EGRESS

- Identify exits
- Report any paths to exits that are blocked
- Use the stairs- NOT elevators
- Familiarize yourself with at least two exits for your location
- Do not cover/decorate exit doors
- **Exit signs** must be clearly identifiable



FIRE DRILLS

Grambling State University will conduct one fire drill at every employee/student occupied building once per year.

WHY:

Fire and smoke drills are very important, especially in residence halls/classroom buildings.

Knowing what to do in the event of a fire lessens the likeliness of panic. (Some drills may be held at night to practice escaping in the dark.)

WHAT TO EXPECT:

Fire drills will consist of a “live” drill in which building occupants must vacate a building to a safe haven in the same way that they would in the case of a fire.

- Take fire drills seriously; they may save your life.
- Follow directions of the person in charge.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF FIRE



GSU Procedures

STEP 1.

Stay calm. Think out what you have to do, then act because every second counts.

STEP 2.

Sound alarm to warn others. Pull the alarm box. If there is none, shout and pound on doors as you evacuate. Never ignore an alarm. (In buildings equipped with smoke detector systems, the alarm will sound automatically—if it doesn't, pull the alarm!)

STEP 3.

Call 911 or GSU Police (318) 274-2222

- Give full location clearly.
- Describe extent of fire.
- Answer any questions before you hang up.

STEP 4.

If you are in your room when you hear an alarm, feel the door, from bottom to top (heat rises). If it is hot, don't open it. Stay in your room. If it is cool, open it a crack—but be ready to slam it shut if you find smoke or flames.

Leave if corridor seems safe.

STEP 5.

If you can exit:

- Take your key and walk to nearest exit if there is no smoke. If there is smoke or if it is dark, crawl to exit, counting doors so you don't get lost.
- Close all doors behind you.
- Do not use elevators—they are deathtraps in a fire. Use the stairs; hold on to rail.
- Turn back if you encounter heavy smoke (it is deadly) and look for another exit.
- Stand clear of the building and out of the way of the fire fighters when you get outside. Never go back into a burning building for any reason. Report to your meeting place.

STEP 6.

If you are trapped in your room:

Keep your door closed.

Seal cracks around door with tape, clothes, sheets, etc.

Open windows slightly, if there is no smoke outside. Open at top (to vent smoke) or at bottom (to let in fresh air).

Tie wet cloth over nose and mouth to aid breathing.

Stay low, where air is fresher (smoke rises).

Signal rescuers by waving a sheet or clothing out the window, or telephone for help.

Do not jump if you are higher than two stories.

STEP 7.

If clothing catches fire—Stop, Drop, and Roll!

Do not run—it will fan the flames. Drop to the floor and roll out fire.

Drop and roll someone else on the ground. Use a rug, coat or blanket to smother flames.

Cool the burn with cold water. Get prompt medical attention.



Thank you for viewing GSU Fire and Safety Training

Please email any questions or comments to the Department of Safety and Risk Management at the following email addresses: safety@gram.edu, mcmahonj@gram.edu, or call the office at 318-274-2419

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