

## Fire prevention

### Cooking to blame

# The number one cause of home fires can be prevented

Cooking is the number one cause of home fires and a leading cause of fire deaths and burn injuries. Preventing kitchen fires is just common sense. Follow these quick and easy tips for fire-safe cooking every time.

- Always keep a large lid near the stove when you are cooking. If a pot catches fire, slide the lid over the pot and turn off the stove. Never put water on a burning pot or try to move it to the sink

- Never leave cooking unattended—particularly if you are using oil or high temperatures. A stovetop fire can start in a flash, so keep a close eye on your cooking at all times

- Be sure to wear tight-fitting or rolled-up sleeves when using the stove. A dangling sleeve on a housecoat or sweater can easily brush against a hot burner and catch fire

- A fire extinguisher can be a useful safety item—if you know how to operate it. Use a multi-purpose, listed extinguisher that is right for your particular kitchen. Fire extinguishers must only be used on small, contained fires. Never allow the fire to get between you and your exit

- Combustible items, such as wood-

en or plastic cooking utensils, dish-cloths, paper towels and pot holders, can easily ignite if they are too close to a burner. Keep all combustible items a safe distance from your stove

- If you experience a kitchen burn, immediately run cool water over the wound for several minutes. The water will prevent further burning and relieve the pain. If the burn is severe, seek medical attention

- Deep fat frying is a major kitchen hazard. Oil heated in a pot on the stove can easily overheat and burst into flames. Fire departments recommend that you use only a thermostatically-controlled deep fat fryer

- Many nighttime fires are caused by people attempting to cook while under the influence of alcohol. Don't let this happen in your home. Keep a close eye on drinkers and install a smoke alarm on every level of your home

- It is the law in Ontario that all residences have working smoke alarms. Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home, and outside sleeping areas. Test your alarms every month and change the batteries at least once a year.

—The Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council



# Harvest Festival

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## Downtown Georgetown



As the recent tragedy in the U.S. has shown, communities rely heavily on their local police and fire department personnel to provide professional emergency service.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Halton Regional Police Service and the Halton Hills Fire Department for all their dedication and service to the citizens of Halton Hills.

Mayor *Kathy Gastle* & Members of Council

# LET'S PLAY BALL!

## Fire Prevention Week

October 7-13, 2001

Visit the  
Halton Hills Fire Department  
at the  
Georgetown Market Place  
Centre Court  
Oct. 11, 12 & 13th

