



FIRE

SAFETY

Presented by the Office of the
Dean of Students

IN THIS FIRE SAFETY WORKSHOP YOU WILL...

- **LEARN ABOUT DIFFERENT TYPES OF FIRES.**
- **FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH UNIVERSITY POLICIES & PROCEDURES, THE LAWS RELATED TO FIRE SAFETY, & BLOOMSBURG TOWN ORDINANCES.**
- **BECOME AWARE OF PREVIOUS FIRE-RELATED TRAGEDIES OF BLOOMSBURG.**
- **UNDERSTAND HOW TO IMPLEMENT FIRE SAFETY & PREVENTION.**



The background of the slide features stylized, flowing flames in shades of orange and yellow against a solid black background. The flames are positioned on the left and right sides, framing the central text.

FIRE, A SILENT DISASTER

- Estimated 3,800 university housing fires occur every year in the U.S.
 - 88% of university housing fires are caused by cooking.
 - Most college fires occur at off-campus residences.
- From 2007-2009, university fires caused \$9 million in property loss
- University fires typically occur between the times of 5pm - 10pm
- The probability of a fire breaking out at universities peaks during the months of September - November.
- Smoke detectors and fire extinguishers have contributed majorly to the drop in fire fatalities & injuries.

WHY IS FIRE SAFETY A CONCERN?

FIRES KILL

Smoke Inhalation causes 85% of fire related deaths.

FIRES CAUSE INJURY

Mild to extreme burns are often results of fires.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Most college students do not have Renters Insurance or Personal Property Insurance

LACK OF FIRE ALARMS

43% of home fire deaths occur in homes without smoke detectors.

ALCOHOL USE CONTRIBUTES TO AN ESTIMATED 40% OF RESIDENTIAL DEATHS



CLASSES OF FIRES

01

CLASS A:

Ordinary combustibles
such as papers, rags,
wood, ect.

02

CLASS B:

Oil, flammable
solvents, gasoline,
grease, ect.

03

CLASS C:

Electrical fires,
energized electrical
equipment





TWO TYPES OF FIRES

CONFINED:

Fires that are confined to specific types of equipment or objects.

83.6% of University fires

NON-CONFINED:

Fires that are not confined to a specific area.

16.4% of University fires

COMMON MISTAKES

- Not leaving the building when the fire alarms are sounding.
- Not taking fire safety procedures seriously
- Unaware of fire codes (off campus), fire policies & procedures (on campus)





CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATION

SAFETY VIOLATIONS:

VIOLATION OF SAFETY REGULATIONS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- 1 . Setting unauthorized fires.
- 2 . Tampering with fire safety systems, fire fighting equipment or defibrillators or rendering such equipment inoperable.
- 3 . Turning in false alarms by any means of communication.
- 4 . Tampering with or improper use of University emergency communication devices.
- 5 . Failure to evacuate facilities upon the sounding of an alarm or drill.
- 6 . Creating any hazardous condition that endangers the health and safety of others.
- 7 . Creating a safety hazard due to reckless or negligent conduct.



**MOST PEOPLE THINK IT CAN'T HAPPEN
TO THEM...**

**TAKE A MOMENT TO READ FIRE
RELATED TRAGEDIES THAT OCCURED IN
BLOOMSBURG NOT TOO LONG AGO.**

BLOOMSBURG DOWNTOWN FIRE

25 October 2009, By Richard Ganahl

An early Sunday morning fire sent two people to the hospital, destroyed 3 buildings, and left 22 residents homeless according to a WBRE News story. The fire apparently started around 6am in the second floor apartment kitchen at 148 West Main Street.

Firefighters from a number of local communities responded to the morning fire including Bloomsburg, Danville, Benton, and Espy.



FIRE AT THE BETA SIGMA DELTA HOUSE

Moscow-Pullman Daily News - Oct 21, 1994

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MOSCOW-PULLMAN DAILY NEWS

Five people die when blaze guts residence near eastern university

Associated Press

BLOOMSBURG, Pa. A fire gutted a house near the Bloomsburg University campus this morning, killing five people.

The dead were believed to be students.

Fire investigators focused their investigation on a sofa on a porch. Bloomsburg Fire Chief Ralph Magill said a fire started in the sofa earlier in the night, but students thought it had been extinguished.

Students said a party was held Thursday at the house, which is about a mile from campus, and some guests may have been sleeping over. Thursday was the eve of homecoming

weekend on the campus.

At least some of the five students living in the home belonged to Beta Sigma Delta, but it wasn't a regular fraternity house, university spokesman Jim Hollister said. Identities of the dead were not released, but all five were believed to be students, he said.

Five bodies were taken from the heavily damaged house late this morning.

One of the dead was a woman.

About 7,400 students are enrolled at the 155-year-old campus about 100 miles northwest of Philadelphia.

About 57 percent of the students live off campus.



Associated Press

Firefighters remove the body of a Bloomsburg (Pa.) University student from the remains of an off-campus house where five people died in a morning fire Friday

FIRE AT THE TAU KAPPA EPSILON HOUSE

By: Michelle M. Martinez INQUIRER SUBURBAN STAFF

BLOOMSBURG, Pa. - A fire destroyed a fraternity house near Bloomsburg University early yesterday, killing three people who officials say they believe were students from the Tau Kappa Epsilon House (TKE) on East Fourth Street.

The coroner is waiting for dental records, officials said. "They're relatively sure that they know" the identities, Sgt. Leo Sokoloski said last night. "But they aren't going to release those names."

Six males were in the home at the time of the fire, Bloomsburg Police Chief Larry Smith said, one resident escaped through a second-floor window, and the other two may have gotten out through the front door, he said.

The cause of the fire was not known last night. In 1994, a morning fire at the Beta Sigma Delta house killed five students, prompting Bloomsburg town and university officials to form a task force to draft safety recommendations for students living off campus. The parents of the three fraternity-house residents who had not been accounted for are in Bloomsburg awaiting word about their children, said Kozloff.



FIRE AT THE TAU KAPPA EPSILON HOUSE

By: Michelle M. Martinez INQUIRER SUBURBAN STAFF

The Bloomsburg Police Department received an emergency call about the fire at 6:05 a.m., and officials arrived in less than a minute to find the fraternity house engulfed in flames, Sokoloski said.

He said the home burned to the ground, collapsing into the basement, forcing officials to use heavy equipment to sift through the remains of the two-story structure.

"By the way that the fire burned and how fast it burned and how hot it burned, it's going to make it difficult for our investigators and the fire marshals to determine the origin of the fire," Sokoloski said.

Smith said there had been a gathering at the fraternity house the night before, and some were still awake at 3:30 a.m., when there were six people in the house.

TKE is an 18-member fraternity. The TKE house had 12 code violations when the Bloomsburg Code Enforcement Office inspected it in October 1999. Among them, it had an electrical system that could not support five portable electric heaters; the fire extinguisher had been discharged; and a smoke detector was not working, according to Dean Von Blohn, Bloomsburg's code enforcement officer.



FIRE AT THE TAU KAPPA EPSILON HOUSE

The Daily Gazette - Oct 20, 1994

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Geiger said Blanchard had been slated to go to Horizon House, a half-

with parole stipulations, regularly re- ne said.

Fraternity house fire kills 5 at Bloomsburg University

By MICHAEL A. GIARRUSSO
The Associated Press

BLOOMSBURG, Pa. — A joyous homecoming weekend turned tragic Friday when a smoldering sofa ignited a blaze at a fraternity house hours after a party, burning five people to death.

Residents believed the sofa fire had been extinguished when they put it out on the porch of the two-story wood house near the Bloomsburg University campus, Fire Chief Ralph Magill said.

"The entire porch area was engulfed in flames and you couldn't even find the second floor," Magill said. "It took about 45 minutes to get under control."

Four people escaped unharmed from the dawn blaze that killed four

men and a woman. Four of the victims and a dog were found dead on the second floor. The other victim was found on the first floor.

Batteries had been taken out of the smoke detectors in the house, a common practice during smoke-filled parties, Coroner Ali Alley said.

Five members of the Beta Sigma Delta fraternity lived in the house. Identities of the dead were not released, but all five were believed to be enrolled, university spokesman Jim Hollister said.

Positive identification could take several days with the help of dental records. Early evidence shows the victims burned to death, Alley said.

Shelley Mohr was one of many who walked by the house in tears hours after the fire.

She said one of the victims was a

good friend who volunteered at a woman's crisis center and lectured on date rape. "I have always had a lot of respect for him," she said. "He was a great person."

During an afternoon rally, university President Jessica Kosloff urged sobbing students to comfort each other.

"Please be assured we are doing everything within our means to provide support, counseling and care for everyone in the university community that has been touched by this tragedy," she said.

The central Pennsylvania university was preparing for homecoming weekend, highlighted by Bloomsburg's football game against Kutztown today.

About 7,400 students are enrolled at the 155-year-old campus.

BU SETS UP FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION

By: Marcella Bombardieri, Globe Staff - March 20, 2007

After two off-campus apartment fires that left three students dead, Boston University officials are pledging to beef up education on fire safety with e-mails, fliers, and a new website.

"It is . . . important that we not retreat to business as usual when it comes to matters of personal safety," President Robert A. Brown and dean of students Kenneth Elmore wrote in an e-mail to students Sunday. "It is true that the recent fires were accidental; however, we should increase our collective obligation to do what we can to avoid similar tragedies in the future."

BU is also doing an extra round of inspection of campus buildings to make sure fire safety systems are in order.

A national group, Campus Firewatch, says at least 19 fire fatalities have occurred across the country this academic year in off-campus student residences or privately owned fraternities. That is the highest number of fire deaths on campuses or involving student residences since the group began tracking media reports in 2000. Eighty percent of college-related fire deaths occur in off-campus housing, the group says.



BU SETS UP FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION

By: Marcella Bombardieri, Globe Staff - March 20, 2007

On Feb. 24, two BU students, Rhiannon McCuish, a 21-year-old from Mashpee, and Stephen Adelpour, a 21-year-old from GreatNeck, N.Y., were killed in a fire in an apartment on Aberdeen Street in Boston. Another student was seriously injured. The blaze was started by a burning candle, apparently lit after the building lost power.

Derek Crowl, a 19-year-old student from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, who was visiting a friend at BU over his spring break. Investigators believe the fire started after hot embers from a charcoal grill on the back porch smoldered on the wooden deck and a couch before bursting into flames around 6 a.m. BU includes fire safety in its freshman orientation and sets strict rules about the use of appliances in campus housing, for example, banning coffee makers, torchiere style halogen lamps, and all microwaves except one model rented from the university. The university also has fire-safety tips on its website, including a page tailored to off-campus apartments.

But Elmore said BU now wants to be more aggressive about making sure all students, especially those living off campus, get the message on fire prevention, as well as other aspects of personal safety. He pointed out that students living independently for the first time may not be familiar with basic safety rules familiar to most adults. "We need to say: 'You are managing a household. You are managing your life a little bit more. You need to think about keeping yourself safe,' " he said. Campus Firewatch identifies four factors most likely to cause fires in student housing: lack of sprinklers, missing or disabled smoke alarms, careless disposal of smoking materials, and impaired judgment from alcohol.

TOWN ORDINANCES

THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG STATES:

- It is unlawful to set off any false alarms and/or to occupy premises with disabled smoke or fire devices
- One smoke detector shall be installed on each floor used for human habitation, if a wood burning stove or fireplace is installed
- Any person, owner, agent or tenant who begins to install or modifies a chimney, fireplace, smoke pipe or wood and/or coal heating or cooking equipment without a permit as provided for in this Part or who installs, begins to install, modify or renovate a chimney, fireplace, smoke pipe or wood and/or coal heating or cooking equipment without a permit or violation of the specifications of this Part shall be, upon conviction thereof, sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues or each Section of this Part which shall be found to have been violated shall constitute a separate offense

UNIVERSITY FIRE POLICY AND SAFETY

Fire drills shall be regularly conducted within ALL University buildings

- Each Residence Hall has 2 planned fire drills per semester
- Each Academic/Classroom Building has at least 1 planned fire drill per semester
- When a fire alarm is going off, you must exit the building because it may or may not be a drill

Fire drills shall include all suitable procedures that will ensure that all persons in the building actually participate. All evacuees shall, once outside the building, remain a reasonable distance away from the building and all entrances. Evacuees must remain outside until given the all-clear to go back inside.



FIRE SAFETY IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS

- Each residence hall room and apartment has a sprinkler(s) head(s) and one or more hard-wired smoke detectors
 - The hallways and common areas of each building are equipped in a similar fashion
- Each hallway in the residence halls and on-campus apartments has a fire extinguisher that is checked nightly and is able to be used by residents in case of an emergency
 - Each individual on-campus apartment is also given their own fire extinguisher
- The National Institute of Standards and Technology have demonstrated that the correct combination of automatic sprinkler systems, smoke alarms, and closed doors provided enough time and safe conditions for residents to escape safely and for firefighters to perform their job without undue hazard



ITEMS PROHIBITED IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS

CANDLES & INCENSE



Candles or incense are not permitted in either the residence hall or apartments!

COOKING DEVICES



This includes devices with open heating elements (toasters, hot plates, traditional coffee pots, deep fryers, outdoor grills, etc.) However, these items are permitted in the on-campus apartments. (with some exceptions, so read the Guide to Campus Living)

EXTENSION CORDS/ELECTRIC DEVICES



Any extension cord or multi-plug power strips without an internal circuit or surge protector, electric blankets, 3D printers, halogen lamps, and self-balancing scooters.





TIPS FOR LIVING IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS & APARTMENTS

KEEP THINGS CLEAN & TIDY

Always keep boxes, trash, and clothing out of the doorway and hallway

COOKING

Read microwave instructions thoroughly and in the apartments, always turn on the overhead stove fan

NO HALOGEN LIGHTS

Halogen lights produce extreme heat and when they fail, they can create small, popping-explosions

NO SMOKING INSIDE

Do NOT smoke in your room. This includes, cigarettes, vapes, e-cigarettes and any other smoking device. These will set off the alarm

DON'T PLAY WITH FIRE ALARMS

Pranking the halls/apartments by pulling the fire alarm is childish and dangerous. If it constantly being pulled, students will start to ignore it and not leave in an actual emergency

SMOKE DETECTOR

NEVER cover the smoke detector. This not only puts others in danger, but the police can pinpoint who has theirs covered and it is a federal offense

DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOUR DORM ROOM





FIRE SAFETY VIDEO FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

PLEASE CLICK ON THE PICTURE TO WATCH THE VIDEO

PREVENTION

HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO PROMOTE FIRE SAFETY IN YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE

- Become educated on fire safety
- Do not tamper with any fire safety device
- Do not cover any smoke detector
- Plan and practice your escape
- Learn how to use a fire extinguisher
- Carefully discard cigarettes
 - Do not smoke indoors
- Be careful while cooking
 - Keep cooking areas clear of combustibles
 - Do not leave items cooking unattended
- Use electrical safety
 - Multi-plug cords are not permitted in the residence halls
 - Do not run electrical cords under the carpet or across the floor