

November 23, 2015

Sally Ellertson  
Public Information Officer  
141 West Renfro  
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261  
817-426-9622  
F: 817-426-9390  
[sellertson@burlesontx.com](mailto:sellertson@burlesontx.com)  
[www.burlesontx.com](http://www.burlesontx.com)

Be careful when you're cooking on Thanksgiving Day.

Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, according to the United States Fire Administration. The average number of home fires on Thanksgiving Day is normally double the average number of fires in homes all other days. According to the USFA, Thanksgiving Day fires in residential buildings occurred most frequently between noon and 3 p.m.

Check out these tips for a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking - frying, broiling or boiling - at high temperatures.
- Make your cooking area safe. Move things that can burn away from the stove. Turn pot handles toward the back so they can't be bumped.
- Watch what you're cooking. Use a timer when roasting a turkey or baking.
- Be prepared. Keep a large pan lid or baking sheet handy in case you need to smother a pan fire.
- Stay awake and alert while you're cooking. If you see smoke or the grease starts to boil in your pan, turn the burner off.
- Prevent burns. Wear short sleeves when you cook, or roll them up. Don't lean over the burner. Use potholders and oven mitts to handle hot cookware.

If you like to fry your holiday turkey, pay attention to these tips.

- Turkey fryers can easily tip over, spilling hot cooking oil over a large area.
- An overfilled cooking pot will cause cooking oil to spill when the turkey is put in, and a partially frozen turkey will cause cooking oil to splatter when put in the pot.
- Even a small amount of cooking oil spilling on a hot burner can cause a large fire.
- Without thermostat controls, deep fryers can overheat oil to the point of starting a fire.
- The sides of the cooking pot, lid and pot handles can get dangerously hot.

And remember, always call 911 if you have an emergency. We are here for you.