

# FIRE SAFETY

**X5**

Fires in fraternity/sorority houses are five times more costly on average than those that occur in dormitories.



Arson is the leading cause of fraternity/sorority house fires; open flame is the next leading cause, with candles playing a major role.



Fires in fraternity/sorority houses peak when the college or university is in session. Fires also peak on weekends.



There has never been a fatality due to fires in collegiate student housing that is sprinkled



Smoke alarms operate nearly twice as often in fraternity/sorority house fires than in all residential structures.

## TIPS TO KEEP YOUR RESIDENCE SAFE

- Prohibit Candles
- Prohibit smoking in the house
- If you choose to allow smoking in a designated area outside the house, provide a safe receptacle for the disposal of smoking materials
- Don't overload electrical outlets
- Be clear with residents about acceptable appliances and power cords
- Prohibit space heaters
- Regularly clean lint traps and exhaust vents of laundry dryers
- Make sure that grills and fire pits are located a safe distance from the house
- Prohibit upholstered furniture on porches
- Store combustible materials safely and appropriately
- Hold regular fire drills
- Ensure that exit signs and emergency lights are visible and working
- Train residents on the operation of fire extinguishers
- Appropriately discipline those who cause false fire alarms
- Make sure that smoke alarms are not disabled
- Adequately maintain alarm and sprinkler systems
- Ensure that fire doors are used properly