

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

October 2009



Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned
Testing the water before putting a child in the bath may sound like common sense. Wearing short or close-fitting sleeves when cooking on the stovetop may show foresight. This and other simple actions may be all it takes to prevent devastating burns.

Fire Prevention Week 2009 focuses on burn awareness and prevention.

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8, but continued into and did most of its damage on October 9, 1871.

Eye Injury

According to Prevent Blindness America (PBA), more than 850,000 Americans injure their eyes annually during home and work activities or while playing sports. Experts say wearing safety glasses and taking other common-sense precautions can prevent or reduce the severity of most eye injuries.

Common agents of eye injuries at work include:

- * Flying objects (bits of metal, glass, plastic)
- * Air-blown and wind-blown particles (dust, wood, sand)
- * Tools (screwdrivers, wrenches)
- * Chemicals (gasoline, oil, solvents, acids)
- * Harmful radiation (welding arcs, UV)

At home, household cleaners and chemicals are common causes of eye injuries. Other causes include:

- * Eyelash curlers
- * Mascara brushes and other cosmetic applicators
- * Fingernails (applying and removing contact lenses)
- * Lawn, garden and hand tools (mowers, etc.)
- * Air-blown and wind-blown particles
- * Bungee cords
- * Falls, bumping into walls, etc.
- * Champagne corks
- * Battery acid
- * Toys and games with hard or sharp edges.

Texas State Smoking Policy



All buildings and vehicles owned, leased, or under the supervision of the University have been designated as smoke-free except as follows:

Smoking is permitted outside buildings in open areas provided that it is **not**

within 20 feet of a building **entrance, open window or air intake.**

For outdoor stadia such as Bobcat Stadium, smoking is permitted in designated smoking areas only. Smoking is expressly prohibited in seating areas.

Smoking is permitted by artists or actors who participate in authorized performances which require smoking as part of artistic productions.

Smoking may be permitted by participants in academic research projects involving smoke or the effects of smoking, if approved by the Institutional Review Board on Human Subjects and the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The Quad, Alkek Library and Academic Services Building breezeways have also been designated as smoke-free and no smoking shall be permitted in these open areas