

Contact: Assistant Fire Marshal David Petersen
Phone: 425.212.3062
Email: dpetersen@lsfire.org

November 20, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lake Stevens Fire Offers Cooking Tips for a Safe Holiday Season

Each year from 2014 to 2016, an estimated 2,400 residential building fires were reported to fire departments in the U.S. on Thanksgiving Day and caused an estimated 5 deaths, 25 injuries and \$19 million in property loss.

Lake Stevens Fire offers the following safety tips to help keep your holiday season fire safe and injury free.

- Cook with caution and be alert! Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, boiling, or grilling food.
- Keep anything that can catch on fire - oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains - away from the stovetop.
- Have a “kid-free zone” of at least three feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared.
- If you have a small (grease) cooking fire and decide to fight the fire; use a lid to remove the oxygen from the fire to put it out. Turn the burners off and leave the pan covered until completely cooled.
- Do NOT use water as it can spatter the fire and multiply its effects.
- Plan ahead! Make a home escape plan by drawing a map of your home. Identify at least two ways out. PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE your escape plan together so everyone knows what to do and where to go.
- Close all doors behind you if you have to exit the home. This contains the fire to where it started and prevents the fire from spreading.
- If your smoke alarms sound, it's time to get out. Once out, stay out until the fire department personnel says it's safe to go back inside.

Assistant Fire Marshal David Petersen commented, “Remember to stay safe and practice a fire escape plan this time of year. Lake Stevens Fire is committed to your safety and awareness of possible hazards. It's never too late to check your smoke alarms for proper use and effectiveness.”

For additional safety tips and Thanksgiving activities for children, visit NFPA's website: **Sparky.org/Parent Page**. For additional information regarding statistical data relating to Thanksgiving, please visit FEMA's website: **FEMA.org / Statistics / Thanksgiving**. Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) provided the graphic, for more info visit www.esfi.org. Lake Stevens Fire wishes you a safe and happy Thanksgiving and holiday season.

#####

LAKE STEVENS
FIRE

Phone: 425.334.3034
Fax: 425.334.6981
www.lsfire.org

“Touching Lives Today ~ Planning for Tomorrow”

Fire Commissioners:
Troy Elmore, Paul Gagnon, Jim Steinruck
Fire Chief Kevin K. O'Brien

1825 South Lake Stevens Road
Lake Stevens, WA 98258