

The 2024 Annual Fire Safety Report- University of Maryland, College Park, MD

The ***Campus Fire Safety Right to Know Act*** within the ***Higher Education Opportunity Act*** requires institutions that maintain on-campus student housing facilities to publish an annual fire safety report that contains information about campus fire safety practices and standards of the institution.

A. 2021-2023 FIRE STATISTICS FOR ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING FACILITIES

DATE	LOCATION	CAUSE	INJURIES*	DEATHS	PROPERTY DAMAGE
1/4/21	4303 Rowalt Drive	Unintentional - Storage in broiler drawer	0	0	\$5000.00
1/8/21	4535 College Avenue	Unintentional - Power inverter fire in electrical room	0	0	\$60,000.00
1/25/21	South Campus Commons 6	Unintentional - Fire in stove wiring	0	0	\$500.00
3/14/21	9 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional - Fire in stove wiring	0	0	\$696.00
4/25/21	Ellicott Hall	Intentional - Bulletin board	0	0	\$5.00
5/24/21	South Campus Commons 3	Intentional - Stuffed squid set on fire in partner breakup	0	0	\$15.00
7/18/21	Dorchester Hall	Undetermined - Firecrackers burned floor	0	0	\$50.00
10/17/21	South Campus Commons 2	Unintentional - Tortillas burned in the oven	0	0	\$7.00
10/22/21	Somerset Hall	Unintentional - Cup of Noodles cooked without water	0	0	\$50.00
11/23/21	University Courtyards 300	Unintentional - Candle fire in bathroom	0	0	\$281,000.00
11/30/21	Worcester Hall	Unintentional - Cooking with plastic in oven	0	0	\$10.00
12/17/21	Pyon Chen Hall	Unintentional – Poptarts in foil in microwave	0	0	\$2.00
1/28/22	Centreville Hall	Unintentional – Food burned in microwave	0	0	\$3.00
2/17/22	South Campus Commons 3	Unintentional – Rice on stove burner	0	0	0
2/19/22	Baltimore Hall	Unintentional – Fluorescent light fixture	0	0	\$50,000.00

		poor connection			
2/21/22	9 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Bagel in toaster	0	0	\$1.00
3/16/22	Cecil Hall	Unintentional – Food in microwave	0	0	\$2.50
4/7/22	South Campus Commons 3	Unintentional – Elevator motor belt	0	0	\$1000.00
4/10/22	Charles Hall	Unintentional – Mac N Cheese no water in microwave	0	0	\$2.00
5/2/22	9 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Bagel in toaster	0	0	\$1.00
5/5/22	Allegany Hall	Unintentional – Stove burner fire	0	0	\$30.00
5/9/22	11 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Dryer motor	0	0	\$250.00
8/5/22	4335 Rowalt Drive	Unintentional – Rice cooking on the stove	0	0	\$30.00
8/11/22	South Campus Commons 1	Unintentional – HVAC belt	0	0	\$2000.00
8/28/22	Elkton Hall	Unintentional – Mac N Cheese no water in microwave	0	0	\$2.00
9/9/22	Johnson-Whittle Hall	Unintentional – Fishcake corndog in microwave	0	0	\$10.00
9/28/22	Johnson-Whittle Hall	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
11/1/22	8 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Bagel in toaster	0	0	\$1.00
12/7/22	9 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
12/10/22	6 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Washing machine motor burned	0	0	\$800.00
2/13/23	12 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Food in glass bowl burned in microwave	0	0	\$12.00
2/25/23	Pyon Chen Hall	Unintentional – popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
2/26/23	4516 Knox Road	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
3/3/23	9 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
3/5/23	Hagerstown Hall	Unintentional – Grease fire on stovetop in lounge	0	0	\$1,004.00

3/7/23	9 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Mini tacos in glass bowl in microwave	0	0	\$12.00
3/9/23	1 Fraternity Drive	Undetermined – Pan with oil left on stove	0	0	\$500.00
3/10/23	9 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Mac n Cheese heated in microwave without water	0	0	\$2.00
3/16/23	Pyon Chen Hall	Undetermined – Burnt contents of waste basket	0	0	0
3/26/23	5 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Washing machine overloaded with clothes burned up motor	0	0	\$800.00
5/1/23	Johnson Whittle Hall	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
5/3/23	Denton Hall	Elevator motor fire	0	0	\$11,500.00
5/19/23	Somerset Hall	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
8/15/23	Dorchester Hall	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
8/23/23	7402 Princeton Avenue	Unintentional – Overheated pump in mechanical room	0	0	\$500.00
8/28/23	Cumberland Hall	Unintentional – Mac n Cheese heated in microwave without water	0	0	\$2.00
8/28/23	3412 Tulane Drive	Oven mitt left in oven	0	0	\$10.00
9/2/23	St. Mary's Hall	Unintentional – Water boiled off pot sterilizing dishes	0	0	\$50.00
9/15/23	3422 Tulane Drive	Toaster oven fire	0	0	\$35.00
10/15/23	Oakland Hall	Unintentional – Jamaican beef patty burned in microwave	0	0	\$4.00
11/16/23	Johnson Whittle Hall	Burned Shin noodles in microwave	0	0	\$8.00
11/19/23	9 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
12/13/23	Oakland Hall	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
12/13/23	3427 Tulane Drive	Unintentional – Pizza heated on plastic plate in toaster oven	0	0	\$5.00

*Injuries that resulted in treatment at a medical facility

B. DESCRIPTION OF ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING FIRE SAFETY SYSTEMS:

- I. Each Department of Residential Facilities/Resident Life housing facility has the following:
 - a. Complete automatic sprinkler system
 - b. Fire alarm system monitored by the UMD Department of Public Safety (UMDPS)
 - c. Smoke alarm in each sleeping room, interconnected and in common areas in suites and apartments
 - d. Egress corridors and stairwells are fire rated
 - e. Residents with disabilities are accommodated according to their needs

- II. Each University-owned fraternity and sorority housing facility has the following:
 - a. Complete automatic sprinkler system
 - b. Fire alarm system monitored by the UMD Department of Public Safety
 - c. Smoke alarm in each sleeping room
 - d. Egress corridors and stairwells are fire rated
 - e. Residents with disabilities are accommodated according to their needs

- III. Each Public/Private Partnership (South Campus Commons and the Courtyards at UMD) facility has the following:
 - a. Complete automatic sprinkler system
 - b. Fire alarm system monitored by commercial central station monitoring service
 - c. Smoke alarm in each sleeping room, interconnected and in common areas
 - d. Egress corridors and stairwells are fire rated
 - e. Residents with disabilities are accommodated according to their needs

- IV. Graduate Gardens and Graduate Hills apartment buildings managed by a private property management company have the following:
 - a. Complete automatic sprinkler system
 - b. Fire alarm system monitored by an approved monitoring company
 - c. Smoke alarms in each apartment
 - d. Egress corridors and stairwells are fire rated

C. NUMBER OF REGULAR MANDATORY SUPERVISED FIRE DRILLS: Each on-campus undergraduate housing facility has a fire drill once a semester. Additionally, each fraternity and sorority house associated with the university but located off-campus has one fire drill a semester. Buildings with yearlong occupancy have an additional fire drill in the summer. The UMD Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) coordinates and evaluates these fire drills. OFM provides a verbal fire safety message to occupants at their assembly points before they re-enter the building. A total of 153 fire drills were conducted in on-campus housing and 26 were conducted in Greek housing off-campus during the 2023 calendar year.

D. POLICIES ON PORTABLE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, SMOKING AND OPEN FLAMES:

On-campus undergraduate housing facilities have prohibitions against the following activities:

1. Smoking (including vaping) inside and outside

2. Using lighted candles or other open flame devices
3. Cooking in unapproved areas (bedrooms) including use of toaster ovens and appliances with an open heating element. Microwaves are allowed in some areas
4. Use of space heaters (Except when issued by Residential Facilities or other housing management for emergency outages of heat)
5. Misuse of extension cords
6. Tampering with or blocking any fire protection equipment
7. Possession, use or manufacture of explosive, flammable or harmful materials
8. Use, charging, or storing of electronic scooters and skateboards including hover boards

E. PROCEDURES FOR STUDENT HOUSING EVACUATION IN CASE OF A FIRE:

When the building fire alarm is activated, residents are expected to:

- Exit the building, closing the room door on the way out.
- Use the stairs, not elevators. Once in the stairwell, do not re-enter the building. Use the fire exit door at the bottom of the stair that goes directly to the outside.
- Once outside, go to the Assembly Area for the building and wait for instructions from housing staff.
- Housing staff will call 911 to report the fire. If there is no housing staff available, a resident will call to report the fire. University of Maryland Department of Public Safety (UMDPS) is the Emergency Communications Center for the University of Maryland. UMDPS can be reached by calling 911 on a campus phone, using a blue light emergency phone, or calling (301) 405-3333 on a mobile device. The fire alarm systems are monitored by the Department of Public Safety.

Residents who see fire or smoke are expected to pull the nearest building fire alarm and evacuate the building as described above. Residents with information about a fire or occupants who are trapped will call UMDPS. All fires, even those found extinguished, are to be reported.

Additional information is available on the following websites:

reslife.umd.edu/safety-resources/policies
southcampuscommons.com/safetyinformation/
umdcourtyards.com/current-residents/safety-information/
fsl.umd.edu/housing/resources-policies

F. FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF:

The OFM provides training to housing staff including Resident Assistants, Resident Directors, and Greek House Directors. The training includes information on fire protection features of facilities, fire prevention, emergency procedures, and conducting fire safety education sessions for residents.

Undergraduate residents are required to attend the first floor meeting where their Resident Assistant reviews information on fire evacuation procedures and the housing prohibitions listed above. Greek House Managers receive training on fire prevention and emergency procedures. Greek House Directors and House Managers hold mandatory chapter meetings with Greek House residents to review fire safety information.

Residents in graduate apartments receive the pamphlet “Fire Safety and You” when they first move in and every year afterwards. The pamphlet has information on fire prevention, building features, and emergency procedures.

For faculty and staff, the OFM provides training in several ongoing programs including New Employee Orientation, Crowd Manager Training, Laboratory Fire Safety, Police Academy, Library Floor Marshal Training, and programs specifically requested.

PLANS FOR FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN FIRE SAFETY:

UMD continually evaluates the fire protection systems in residential facilities. A systematic process of annually planning and budgeting for fire protection system upgrades has been in place for over 30 years. Such upgrades occur through system replacements and building renovations. New construction projects include the most up-to-date fire protection systems.

Current plans include:

- Explore the application of AI to all areas of fire safety including construction plan review, hazard risk analysis, engineered solutions, and fire safety education.
- Improve fire safety awareness through enhanced public education and coordination with facility managers as part of the ESSR 3-year strategic plan.
- Work with Department of Transportation Services and Department of Resident Life to manage risks associated with micro-mobility devices.
- Continue equipping all new residence halls with resident room smoke detection systems that are monitored by the fire alarm control unit.
- Continue to replace single station smoke alarms in student bedrooms, suites and apartments every 10 years.
- Continue to equip electric stoves in apartments, in apartments that have them, with sensi-temp technology that limits the temperature of the burners to minimize stove-top fires.

This report was compiled by the Office of the Fire Marshal in the Department of Environmental Safety, Sustainability & Risk within the Division of Administration. The Office of the Fire Marshal may be contacted by phone at (301) 405-3960 or by email firemarshal@umd.edu.