

The 2026 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. 2023-2025 FIRE STATISTICS FOR ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING FACILITIES

DATE	LOCATION	CAUSE	INJURIES*	DEATHS	PROPERTY DAMAGE
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

DATE	LOCATION	CAUSE	INJURIES*	DEATHS	PROPERTY DAMAGE
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
1/19/24	8 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Pizza heated on plastic plate in toaster oven	0	0	\$5.00
1/29/24	Pyon Chen Hall	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
1/30/24	Harford Hall	Unintentional – Washing machine motor burned from broken belt	0	0	\$800.00
3/3/24	La Plata Hall	Unintentional – Electric scooter burned in lobby	0	0	\$1564.00
3/15/24	Oakland Hall	Unintentional – Ramen cooked without water in microwave	0	0	\$3.00

DATE	LOCATION	CAUSE	INJURIES*	DEATHS	PROPERTY DAMAGE
3/24/24	4325 Rowalt Drive	Unintentional – Overheated motor in washing machine	0	0	\$500.00
4/17/24	3 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Egg roll burned in microwave in resident room	0	0	\$2.00
4/23/24	Hagerstown Hall	Unintentional – Chipotle chips burned in microwave oven damaging oven	0	0	\$121.00
5/12/24	Dorchester Hall	Unintentional – washing machine belt overheated	0	0	\$100.00
6/27/24	7502 Princeton Avenue	Unintentional – Mechanical/electrical fire in washing machine	0	0	\$1000.00
9/20/24	Johnson-Whittle Hall	Unintentional – Ramen burned in microwave	0	0	\$2.00
9/23/24	Leonardtwn 249	Unintentional – Chicken fries burned in microwave	0	0	\$8.00
11/8/24	Somerset Hall	Unintentional – Chicken wings on plastic plate burned in microwave	0	0	\$2.00
11/17/24	Oakland Hall	Unintentional – Plastic cup burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
11/20/24	Frederick Hall	Unintentional – HVAC belt burned – smoke damage	0	0	\$100.00
11/21/24	Oakland Hall	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
11/25/24	Oakland Hall	Unintentional – Washing machine overheated from being overloaded	0	0	\$200.00
11/30/24	Johnson-Whittle	Unintentional – Tang noodles burned in microwave	0	0	\$4.75
12/19/24	4327 Rowalt Drive	Unintentional – Dryer overheated from being overloaded	0	0	\$275.00
1/4/25	Queen Anne’s Hall	Unintentional – Exhaust fan motor overheated	0	0	\$200.00
2/9/25	11 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Cinamon bun burned in microwave	0	0	\$4.00
2/9/25	Oakland Hall	Unintentional – Cake mix burned in microwave	0	0	\$5.00

DATE	LOCATION	CAUSE	INJURIES*	DEATHS	PROPERTY DAMAGE
2/21/25	4516 Knox Road	Unintentional –Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
3/4/25	La Plata Hall	Unintentional – Food burned in microwave	0	0	\$100.00
4/9/25	Prince George’s Hall	Unintentional – Danish pastry burned in microwave	0	0	\$3.00
4/29/25	Johnson-Whittle Hall	Unintentional –Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
5/27/25	3421 Tulane Drive	Unintentional – Bathroom exhaust fan electrical fire	0	0	\$2525.00
6/11/25	3424 Tulane Drive	Unintentional – Electric scooter burned in apartment	0	0	\$27,500.00
6/23/25	Johnson-Whittle Hall	Unintentional –Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
8/14/25	3224 Tulane Drive	Unintentional – Tea left boiling on the stove	0	0	\$125.00
8/29/25	Centreville Hall	Unintentional – Exhaust fan overheated	0	0	\$200.00
9/3/25	10 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Food wrapped in foil burned in microwave	0	0	\$85.00
10/13/25	Oakland Hall	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
10/21/25	5 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Washing machine motor overheated	0	0	\$200.00
11/11/25	Cumberland Hall	Unintentional – Popcorn burned in microwave	0	0	\$1.00
11/16/25	8 Fraternity Drive	Unintentional – Coffee maker cord melted by toaster oven	0	0	\$50.00
11/17/25	South Campus Commons 5	Unintentional – Table burned with clothing steamer	1	0	\$1000.00
11/24/25	Easton Hall	Unintentional – Cookies burned in microwave	0	0	\$5.00
12/20/25	South Campus Commons 3	Unintentional – Heater blower motor smoking	0	0	\$600.00

*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. The UMD Office of the Fire Marshal 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 152 fire drills were conducted in on-campus housing and 24 were conducted in Greek housing off-campus during the 2025 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, skateboards and other micromobility devices including hover boards. All micromobility devices have been prohibited in all residential facilities starting Fall 2025.

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:

fsl.umd.edu/housing/resources-policies

southcampuscommons.com/safetyinformation/ (resident login required)

umdcourtyards.com/current-residents/safety-information/ (resident login required)

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

The Office of the Fire Marshal 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.

Every resident room has emergency instructions posted on the back of the door with a diagram showing the locations of the exits as well as fire survival information on evacuation to the outside or an area of refuge or remain in place.

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 Office of the Fire Marshal provides training in a number of ongoing programs including 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 annual 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:

- Implementation of a new software platform to increase efficiency of managing and tracking fire inspections.
- 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 stakeholders.
- Work with Department of Transportation Services and Department of Resident Life to manage risks associated with micro-mobility devices.
- Continue to equip 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 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.