

Emergency Fire Procedures at Knights Circle and The Pointe at Central

Fires can present a serious problem in apartment communities. Though damage is usually confined to property destruction, the loss of personal items or of life is a possibility.

The Pointe at Central and Knights Circle management highly recommend residents obtaining renter's insurance to protect against such losses. Fires are often started through carelessness with cooking, matches, and cigarettes. Many fires can be avoided by using caution and common sense.

As an added precautionary measure, the apartments have placed Fire Stop fire extinguishers above each stovetop. These extinguishers are equipped with magnetic fasteners and are made to attach to the hood of a stove. These extinguishers should be placed in a central location between the front and back burner on either side, so that in the event of a fire, the contents will fall evenly on both burners. Please be aware that there is also a fire extinguisher located in the kitchen, as well. To learn how to operate these devices, contact a Resident Assistant.

Prevention:

Prevention is the best insurance against fire. Knights Circle and The Pointe at Central recommends that residents take these simple safety precautions in apartments to prevent fires from starting:

1. Never leave cooking, appliances in use (such as irons or hair strengtheners), or cigarettes unattended.
2. Let cooking grease cool and then pour into a metal can. Never pour hot grease into a plastic container.
3. Never misuse lighters or matches.
4. Avoid cooking while intoxicated, taking medication, or tired.
5. Test smoke detector(s) monthly to make sure they are working.
6. Do not store gas-operated tools or vehicles (motorcycles) inside the apartment or in or on stairwells, breezeways, patios or balconies.
7. Never burn candles, use halogen lamps, or cheap extension cords.
8. Never overload extension cords or outlets.
9. Always use electrical items for their intended purposes only.
10. Keep curtains and other materials 12 inches from any outlet.
11. Always keep the apartment free of clutter.

12. ALWAYS evacuate if the building alarm sounds.

Smoke Detectors:

If a fire occurs, smoke detectors alert residents immediately so they can exit the building safely. If residents notice smoke detector(s) are beeping, they should notify the management office immediately, so that proper maintenance can be performed. They should not disable the smoke detector. Disabling or removing a smoke detector, including removing working batteries, is a violation of the law. It is the responsibility of the resident to replace batteries in the smoke detector after they move into the apartment. Residents at The Pointe at Central should contact (407) 384-6800, or visit the office immediately, if they need assistance. Residents at Knights Circle should contact (407) 362-5036, or visit the office immediately, if they need assistance.

Smoke detectors and fire extinguishers should be checked on the 1st of each month. To ensure that the fire extinguisher is in operable condition, check that the expiration date has not arrived, the pin is securely in place, and the gauge reads full. The date punched on the yellow tag indicates the date of the extinguisher's last inspection, not the expiration date. All fire extinguishers are due for inspection one year from the date of the last inspection. If residents are concerned about the status of fire safety equipment, they can submit a maintenance work order with maintenance and they will check the equipment.

If Fire Strikes:

In the event of a fire, contact the local fire department by dialing 911, and pull a fire alarm station to notify others to evacuate.

Do not rush out into the hallway. First, feel the door. If it is hot, use another way out. If the door is cool, leave by the nearest exit.

Smoke rises, so the cleanest air is near the floor. If the planned escape route becomes smoky, crawl out of the building on hands and knees.

If escaping the apartment is not possible, stuff wet towels, sheets and clothes around the door and vents to keep smoke out. Call the Fire Department, 911, and give them the location. If no smoke is coming into the room, open a window slightly. Stay low, yell and wave a bright cloth, towel or sheet out a window to signal the location of the fire. By accepting the responsibility to keep apartments safe from fire, residents are not only protecting themselves, but their neighbors, as well. With only minimal planning and awareness, residents can make the difference between safety and disaster for everyone.

Smoking:

Smoking is permitted inside apartments, with permission of all tenants. In the event that there becomes a conflict between tenants about smoking within the apartment, the unit will default to a smoke-free environment.

Weapons, Fireworks and Other Dangerous Items:

Possession or use of firearms, fireworks (including sparklers and smoke bombs), explosives, or dangerous or flammable chemicals of any kind are strictly prohibited in any facility or in the surrounding vicinity. This includes, but is not limited to, firearms, ammunition, BB or pellet guns, air soft guns, weapons for sport (including paint ball guns, bow and arrows, diving knives, hunting weapons), stun guns, swords, switch blades, knives, sling shots, martial arts or medieval weapons, and flammables (liquids, solvents, gases). In the case of weapons, the possession or use of certain items may violate of state or federal law and cause violators to be subject to arrest. This includes “toys” that look like actual weapons.

Explosives, flammable or any hazardous substances, or any item or thing of a dangerous nature are strictly prohibited.