



Humboldt Bay Fire News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject : Fire Prevention Week begins October 4! HBF to Release Virtual Open House Video Series.

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October 4 marks the first day of Fire Prevention Week 2020, themed: “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!”

According to the NFPA, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Almost half (44%) of reported home fires started in the kitchen. Two-thirds (66%) of home cooking fires start with the ignition of food or other cooking materials.

“We know cooking fires can be prevented,” said Lorraine Carli, NFPA’s vice-president of outreach and advocacy. “Staying in the kitchen, using a timer, and avoiding distractions such as electronics or TV are steps everyone can take to keep families safe in their homes.”

Humboldt Bay Fire encourages all residents to embrace this year’s cooking safety theme. Chief Sean Robertson reminds us that “a cooking fire can grow quickly. I have seen many homes damaged and people injured by fires that could easily have been prevented.”

Here are some ways to stay safe while cooking:

- Never leave cooking food unattended. Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling or broiling. If you have to leave, even for a short time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you’re cooking.
- You have to be alert when cooking. You won’t be alert if you are sleepy, have taken medicine or drugs, or consumed alcohol that makes you drowsy.
- Always keep an oven mitt and pan lid nearby when you’re cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan to smother the flame. Turn off the burner, and leave the pan covered until it is completely cool.
- Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

Due to COVID-19, this year Humboldt Bay Fire is hosting a *virtual* open house in support of Fire Prevention Week. Throughout the week of October 5 – October 9, we will be releasing several videos a day to our YouTube and social media channels covering a variety of topics and giving you a behind-the-scenes look into Humboldt Bay Fire.

Don't miss out! Subscribe to our YouTube Channel today:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFIHT6My0Bq_E0Og7MBwKzQ

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs in Eureka, please contact Humboldt Bay Fire at www.hbfire.org or 707-441-4000.

For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and cooking fire prevention, visit www.fpw.org.

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