Thanksgiving is the leading day for home cooking fires

Written by Lorraine Carli Friday, 16 November 2012 15:05

Three times as many fires occur on Thanksgiving

November 16, 2012 – While most people consider overeating the greatest peril of Thanksgiving, cooking the day's feast presents its own risks, too.

The <u>National Fire Protection Association</u> (NFPA) says Thanksgiving Day is the leading day for home cooking fires, with three times as many occurring on Thanksgiving as any other day of the year. In 2010, there were 1,370 fires on Thanksgiving, a 219 percent increase over the daily average.

"Thanksgiving is a fun, festive holiday, but it's also very hectic," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of communications for NFPA. "All the entertaining and distractions make it easy to forget about what's cooking on the stovetop."

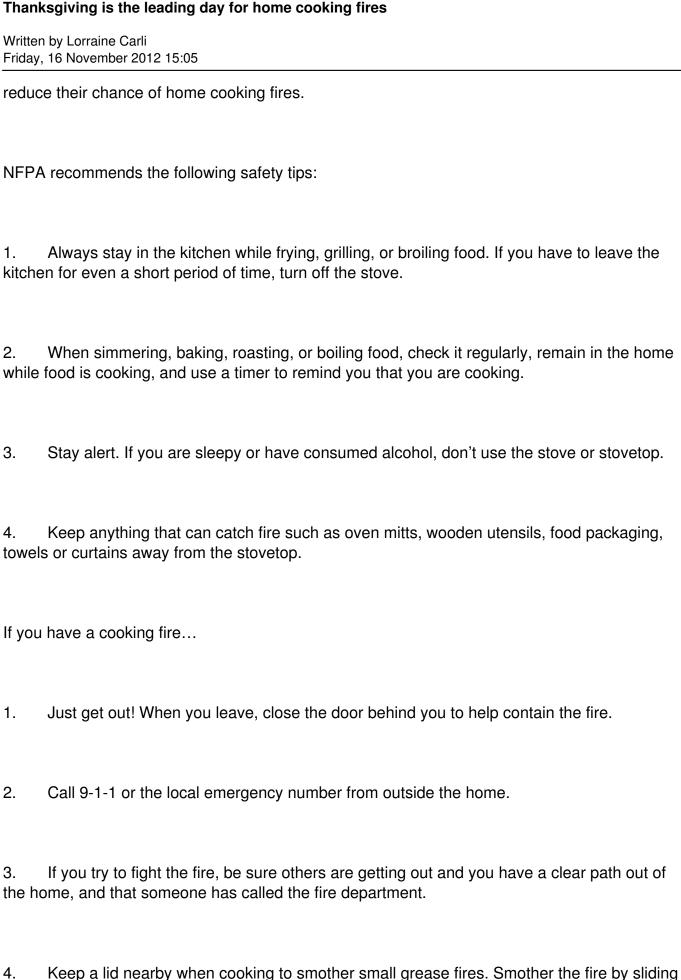
Video – "Kitchen for Trouble" stars cartoon character Dan Doofus. Dan has to learn the hard way how to prevent cooking fires.

<u>Sparky's Safety Spots – Kitchen Fires</u> – World renowned chef (the late) Julia Child cooked up some memorable advice about how to prevent fires in your kitchen.

Home cooking fires peak on major U.S. holidays that traditionally include cooking, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas and Easter.

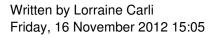
Overall, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 156,400 home fires involving cooking equipment in 2010. These fires caused 420 civilian deaths, 5,310 civilian injuries, and \$993 million in direct property damage.

By recognizing the risks of the holidays and making simple adjustments, people can greatly



the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely

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cooled.

5. For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

About the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

NFPA is a worldwide leader in fire, electrical, building, and life safety. The mission of the international nonprofit organization founded in 1896 is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. Visit NFPA's website at www.nfpa.org for more information.