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Fire Safety Precautions

Keep doorways, corridors, and stairwells clear and unobstructed. Keep fire doors closed.

Make sure that all electrical appliances and cords are in good condition and UL approved.

Do not overload electrical outlets. Use fuse-protected multi-outlet power strips and extension cords when necessary.

Extinguish all smoking materials properly and thoroughly.

Never store flammable substances in your room or apartment. Unauthorized use of candles and live holiday decorations is not permitted in University buildings.

Be aware that transmitting a false alarm is a criminal offense that endangers the lives of both building occupants and emergency personnel. It is also an offense to prop open fire doors or to tamper in any way with alarm equipment, electromagnetic locks, or other life safety devices or to block or obstruct paths of egress.

What to Do in Case of Fire

If you discover a fire in a campus building:

Immediately pull the nearest fire alarm as you exit the building.

When evacuating the building, remember to feel doors before opening them to be sure that there is no fire danger on the other side. If you must enter a smoke-filled room or hallway, stay low, keeping one hand on the wall to avoid disorientation and crawl to the nearest exit, keeping your head near the floor.

Once you are safely away from danger, call the emergency number for your campus **508 831-5555** to report the fire. If you are off campus, dial **911**.

Leave the building at once but stand by to direct emergency teams to the location of the fire.

Fire Response Dos and Don'ts

DO treat every alarm as an emergency. If an alarm sounds, exit the building immediately.

DON'T assume that a fire alarm is a drill or test.

DO remain in your room if you cannot get out of the building because of heat or smoke.

Call WPI Police right away. Keep the door closed and await assistance from the Emergency Personnel and/or the Fire Department.

If smoke is entering around the door, stuff the crack under the door with sheets, clothes, or blankets. If possible, open the window and wave a brightly colored garment or towel from your window—the Fire Department will be looking for this sign.

DO close the door behind you if it is safe to leave your room.

DON'T waste time collecting personal valuables. Take your keys so that you can reenter your room if exit from the building is not possible.

DON'T use an elevator during a fire emergency: always use the fire stairs.

DO make your presence known to other occupants and to WPI Police by telephone if you are injured or disabled. Emergency personnel will do their best to assist you in leaving the building.