

# Resident Fire SAFETY BROCHURE

## Be prepared and know what to do in a fire situation:

- Be familiar with the residence hall safety systems, such as the floor plans and the location of all exits. In case of an emergency, **EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY**.
- Apathy can put you in danger and ignoring fire alarms hinders evacuation and lifesaving operations.
- Know your neighbors and be aware of anyone with disabilities or special needs who may require assistance from you or fire service personnel.
- Keep a flashlight and keys easily accessible.

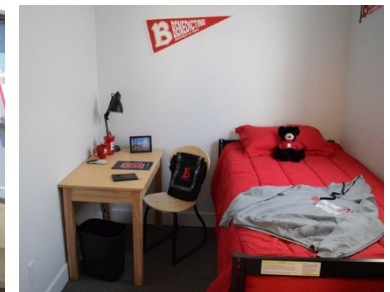
## If a fire occurs in your room:

- Leave immediately and close the door behind you.
- Exit from the safest stairwell and leave the residence hall. Once you reach a safe location outside, call 911 and then Public Safety at (602) 888-5516 and provide the officer with your floor and room number.
- Never go upstairs, and never go to the roof because smoke and heat rise.
- Do not use elevators. They are to be used by the fire department only.

## If a fire occurs in another room:

- Activate a manual pull station and evacuate the building.
- Call 911 first and provide the dispatcher with the building address, your location and the location of the fire. Then call Public Safety at (602) 888-5516.
- Take your keys and a flashlight with you. Before leaving, feel the door with the back of your hand to ensure fire conditions outside your room are not dangerous. **DON'T** leave if the door is hot to the touch – stay in place. If the door is cool to the touch, open the door slightly. If smoke conditions are not dangerous, go to the safest stairwell.
- If the door is hot to the touch and you stay in your room, do not break the window. If smoke and heat start to build up, open the window slightly. If your window does not open, stay low to the floor. Also, seal the door by placing a wet towel at the bottom.

These are general guidelines to consider if a fire strikes at the residence hall. Please remember that no two fires are alike, all fires behave differently and each may require a different response. Being prepared, remaining calm and knowing what to do in a situation can help save your life. Remember, alcohol or drug abuse often impairs judgment and hampers evacuation efforts. Using clear, rational judgment can save your life.



**B** Benedictine  
University

For more information, contact Michi Dubes at (630) 829-6364, [mdubes@ben.edu](mailto:mdubes@ben.edu) or the Mesa Fire Department (480) 644-2101 or [fireinfo@mesaz.gov](mailto:fireinfo@mesaz.gov).

## Did you know?

- Fire fatalities average about 7-9 deaths per academic year.
- Cooking is the primary cause of non-fatal campus housing fires.
- Alcohol is a contributing factor in roughly 76% of all campus fire fatalities.
- Nearly 58% of fatal fires are due to smoke alarms/detectors were either missing, disabled, covered, or had the batteries removed.

## Colleges and universities must have a P.L.A.N.

When an emergency strikes, people tend to panic and may not know or remember what to do. Having a plan in place for emergencies will increase your ability to act quickly and avoid injury. The Mesa Fire and Medical Department recommends you **PLAN** for emergencies.

- P** Practice fire drills.
- L** Learn cooking safety.
- A** Apathy is the enemy.
- N** Never overload electrical outlets.



- **Practice fire drills** – Fire drills teach you how to safely exit your building and what procedures you need to follow in case of an emergency.
- **Learn cooking safety** – Cooking equipment is the No. 1 cause of residence hall fires. Residence hall fires from cooking surpass all other accidental fires combined. Cooking equipment is prohibited in the Alhambra Residence Hall rooms.
- **Apathy is your enemy** – Carelessness with smoking materials, excessive combustibles and underestimating fire are risks in any residence hall. Ignoring fire alarms will contribute to panic and poor judgment when a real emergency arises. Your personal safety is no joke and not cause for apathy.
- **Never overload electrical outlets** – Overloaded electrical outlets and extension cords increase the risk of fire. Unplug or place seldom-used electrical items on a common power strip that is kept off when not in use.

The Alhambra Residence Hall is equipped with a fire alarm system, which can be activated at certain temperature levels or smoke conditions. However, many small fires will require a fire alarm pull station to be manually activated. Should you discover a fire, remember **RACE**:

- R** Remove anyone from immediate danger.
- A** Activate the fire alarm system by pulling the nearest fire alarm pull station, call 911 and then Public Safety at (602) 888-5516.
- C** Contain the fire by closing doors.
- E** Evacuate the hotel.



## Safety Tips

- Never cover, remove or tamper with the smoke detectors in your room.
- Check that you have a working smoke detector.
- Know the locations of all stairways and emergency exits on your floor.
- Check stairways for heat and/or smoke conditions before entering.
- Take your keys and a flashlight with you.
- If a fire occurs in your room, LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!
- Make sure you close the door behind you.
- When you reach a safe area, call 911, then Campus Safety at (602) 888-5516 and alert building tenants.
- Never use candles in the residence hall rooms.