



# News Release

**Sunrise Fire-Rescue Department**

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[www.sunrisefl.gov](http://www.sunrisefl.gov)

For Release: IMMEDIATE

## Happy New Year from Sunrise Fire-Rescue

It's hard to believe, but a new year is upon us and you know what that means... New Year's Resolutions! This year while you are setting goals for the upcoming year, Sunrise Fire-Rescue encourages you to make fire safety a part of your resolutions. Addressing the following issues will set you and your family up for a smooth sailing and safer year.

### Kitchen Safety

Kitchen fires are the **leading cause** of residential fires in Sunrise. After the holidays is a great time to clean the grease and excess food build-up from the inside of the oven. Using these simple rules will help prevent unexpected fires.

- Never leave your stove top cooking unattended, remain in the kitchen and stay alert.
- When using the oven never leave the house and keep aware.

Ovens are made for cooking not storage; a common cause of oven fires is the forgotten items, do not store items in your oven.

### Dryer Safety

Dryer fires are the **second leading cause** of home fires in Sunrise due to failure to clean them. Most homeowners only clean the lint build up on the removable screen at the front of the dryer. The hidden hazard most commonly overlooked is in the lint build up in the back of the dryer and through the tubing within the walls all the way through the dryer exhaust vent of the house.

To ensure no hidden hazard leaves you or your family susceptible to fire:

- Once a year completely clean the lint out of the dryers vent tubing and exhaust vent or have a dryer vent cleaning service do it for you.
- Do not use a dryer without a lint filter and clean before and after each load of laundry
- Rigid or flexible metal venting material should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time check for restrictions behind the dryer.
- Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and don't overload your dryer.
- Turn the dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.

### Home and Health Safety

- Remove clutter from your home and walkways and keep the hallways well lit. Falls in the home often occur due to clutter, trip hazards. Wear proper footwear in the home and avoid walking around in socks.
- Check all medications in your home. If they have expired, bring them to the safe disposal in the lobby of the Public Safety Building located at 10440 W Oakland Park Boulevard. Do not flush them down the toilet, or throw them away in the regular garbage. When storing them please keep out of reach from children.

For more information and safety tips, visit the City of Sunrise website at [www.sunrisefl.gov](http://www.sunrisefl.gov) . In the event of an emergency, always dial 9-1-1 immediately.