

October 5, 2023
Emily Graves, Communications Specialist
egraves@cityofventura.ca.gov

Ventura Fire Department urges residents to prioritize fire prevention in the kitchen
National Fire Prevention Week happening October 8-14, 2023

Ventura, Calif. – The Ventura Fire Department is proud to announce the observance of National Fire Prevention Week, happening October 8-14, 2023, an initiative aimed at providing lifesaving education to reduce the number of casualties caused by fires.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States.

“Cooking fires can grow quickly, homes can be severely damaged, and people injured by fires that can easily be prevented,” said Fire Marshal Brett Reed. “Fire prevention is a shared responsibility. By taking simple yet effective steps in our daily lives, we can make our homes safer and prevent devastating cooking-related fires.”

The Ventura Fire Department offers these key safety tips to help reduce the risk of a cooking fire:

1. Watch what you heat: Always keep a close eye on what you are cooking and set a timer to remind you of items that may be out of sight in an oven or barbecue.
2. Always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner.
3. Have a “kid- and pet-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove, grill, and anywhere else hot food or drink is prepared or carried.
4. Always turn pot handles toward the back of the stove and out of reach of children.

During Fire Prevention Week, the Ventura Fire Department is connecting with local students to showcase fire safety demonstrations and discuss prevention opportunities.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week and cooking safety, visit www.fpw.org. For fire safety fun for kids, visit sparky.org.

###