Take the time to become familiar with your surroundings, and to plan an escape in the event of a fire. You can increase your chance of surviving a fire or an emergency by being prepared.

If a fire breaks out you have to get out fast. To prepare, sit down with your housemates and discuss an escape plan. Be sure that everyone knows an unobstructed exit – doorways to stairs, stairs to outside – from every room. Decide on a meeting place outside where everyone will meet after they escape.

Be sure to practice your escape plan at least twice a year.

Remember, R.A.C.E +E

Rescue and Relocate - Relocate victims and assist others to safety when needed.

Alert others – Alert others by activating a smoke detector and calling 911 from a safe location.

Confine – Confine the smoke and fire by closing doors.

Evacuate – If you must evacuate through smoke, crawl on your knees to the nearest exit, keeping your head 12-24 inches above the floor.

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Extinguish – If the fire is small, extinguish it if you are able to. If it is spreading, get out and close the door behind you.

If you didn't or couldn't evacuate:

SIGNAL FOR HELP; Call 911 for help, if you have no phone, signal at the window for help.

DO NOT BREAK WINDOWS; Flames and smoke can travel back to you from the outside. If you need air, open the window a crack, and be ready to close it immediately.

DON'T JUMP; If you are above the first floor, wait to be rescued. Remain calm.

SEAL THE ROOM; Use a wet cloth or tape to seal around cracks in doors and vents. Close doors and protect yourself against smoke.

Safety Tips

Give space to space heaters

Give at least 3 feet of space between a space heater and anything that can burn.

Keep parking clear of combustibles

Parking on vegetation can cause a fire.

When using candles

Never leave them unattended.

Keep away from combustibles.

Keep away from open windows.

Use with a sufficient size holder.

Properly discard cigarettes

If a fire happens in...

The oven

Close the door

Turn off heat

The microwave

Keep door closed

Unplug

Dryer

Keep door closed

Unplug

For questions, concerns or more information, contact Hofstra's Fire/Life safety line: (516) 463-5562