Introduction

The following information, including statistics on fires in Messiah College’s on-campus student housing facilities for the calendar years indicated, is provided in accordance with the Higher Education Act of 2008 and regulations issued by the U.S. Department of Education. This report will be revised as necessary by October 1 of each year and made available on the College’s Internet site.

A written log of all fires occurring during the current calendar year will be maintained at the Fire & Safety Systems Office in the Greenbriar Safety Building, and may be viewed by any member of the public or the college community at large during normal business hours. The current campus fire log may also be viewed and downloaded at any time from the Fire Safety website. The fire log records, by the date that the fire was reported, any fire that occurred in an on-campus student housing facility. The log must include the nature, date, time, and general location of each fire. The College will make an entry, or an addition to an entry, to the log within 2 business days of the receipt of the information. The information from the prior year’s fire log will be incorporated into each revised Fire Safety Report.

As required by federal law, by October 1 of each year Messiah College will distribute to all enrolled students and current employees a notice including a statement of the Fire Safety Report’s availability, the exact electronic address at which the report is posted, a brief description of the report’s contents, and a statement that the College will provide a paper copy of the report on request. A similar notice will be provided as required by law to all prospective students and prospective employees. The report can be accessed via the Fire Safety website.

Definitions Used in this Report

The following definitions, as provided by federal law, are provided to aid you in understanding how the data in this report has been accumulated and developed:

- **Cause of fire:** The factor or factors that give rise to a fire. The causal factor may be, but is not limited to, the result of an intentional or unintentional action, mechanical failure, or act of nature. The following cause categories will be used in this report:
  - **Unintentional Fire**
    - Cooking
    - Smoking materials
    - Open flames
    - Electrical
    - Heating equipment
    - Hazardous products
    - Machinery/industrial
    - Natural
    - Other
  - **Intentional Fire**
  - **Undetermined Fire**
Fire: Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

Fire drill: A supervised practice of a mandatory evacuation of a building for a fire.

Fire-related injury: Any instance in which a person is injured as a result of a fire, including an injury sustained from a natural or accidental cause, while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of the fire. The term “person” may include students, employees, visitors, firefighters, or any other individuals.

Fire-related death: Any instance in which a person—
- Is killed as a result of a fire, including death resulting from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of a fire; or
- Dies within one year of injuries sustained as a result of the fire.

Fire safety system: Any mechanism or system related to the detection of a fire, the warning resulting from a fire, or the control of a fire. This may include sprinkler systems or other fire extinguishing systems, fire detection devices, stand-alone smoke alarms, devices that alert one to the presence of a fire, such as horns, bells, or strobe lights, smoke-control and reduction mechanisms, and fire doors and walls that reduce the spread of a fire.

Value of property damage: The estimated value of the loss of the structure and contents, in terms of the cost of replacement in like kind and quantity. This estimate will include contents damaged by fire, and related damages caused by smoke, water, and overhaul; however, it will not include indirect loss, such as business interruption.
2015 Fires (with Fire-Related Causes, Injuries, Deaths, and Property Loss Details)

**HESS RESIDENCE (NORTH COMPLEX):** At 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 03/24/2015, a female resident student was boiling water and left the room for approximately three minutes when grease and leftover food in the catch plate ignited and caused flames between 2”-3” high around the pot of water. The RA turned the burner off which extinguished the flames. No one was injured and no damages were reported.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>No. of Fires</th>
<th>Cause of Fire</th>
<th>Related Injuries</th>
<th>Related Deaths</th>
<th>Property Loss ($)</th>
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SMITH APARTMENTS: At 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, 02/27/2016, female resident students were baking brownies with marshmallow on top when the marshmallow bubbled and touched the top oven coil while the oven was in broil mode. The flames were approximately 2" high and burned for 2-3 minutes before dying out on their own. No injuries or damages were reported.

FRY APARTMENTS: At 10:30 a.m. on Monday, 03/28/2016, a female resident student was cooking breakfast when some pancake batter ignited on one of the stove top burners. Small flame was put out successfully by the resident using the apartment fire extinguisher. No injuries or damages were reported.

KELLY APARTMENTS: At 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 04/26/2016, a female resident student was boiling chicken when the stovetop drip pan ignited. After removing the pot from the burner the resident used the nearby extinguisher to put the fire out. No injuries or damages were reported.

SMITH APARTMENTS: At 12:30 p.m. on Friday, 09/02/2016, a female resident student was frying eggs on one of the stovetop burners when a small piece of meat that was left in the drip pan ignited. The flame was approximately 1/4 inch high and after the burner had been turned off lasted approximately 10 seconds before dying out.

FRY APARTMENTS: At 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday, 11/30/2016, a female resident student was heating oil on one of the stovetop burners and left the oil unattended. Upon return she found the oil had ignited with flames approximately 12-18 inches high. The flames died out once the oil in the pan had run out. No injuries or damages were reported.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>No. of Fires</th>
<th>Cause of Fire</th>
<th>Related Injuries</th>
<th>Related Deaths</th>
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2017 Fires (with Fire-Related Causes, Injuries, Deaths, and Property Loss Details)

BITTNER RESIDENCE (SOUTH COMPLEX): At 4:55 p.m. on Saturday, 01/21/2017, a male resident student was making a bag of popcorn in the microwave when the bag developed a hole and the grease in the bag ignited. The resident took the bag and ran outside where the flame was extinguished. No injuries or damages were reported.

MOUNTAIN VIEW RESIDENCE (SOUTH COMPLEX): At 02:20 a.m. on Friday, 03/03/2017, a male resident student was making noodles in the microwave and forgot to add water prior to heating. The noodles and bowl were both found still smoldering after extinguishing themselves. No injuries or damages were reported.

FRY APARTMENTS: At 4:20 p.m. on Saturday, 12/02/2017, a male resident student was making enchiladas on the stovetop when the oil in the frying pan ignited, causing flames between 4-6 inches high. The flames eventually died out on their own. No injuries or damages were reported.

SMITH APARTMENTS: At 08:55 p.m. on Tuesday, 12/12/2017, female resident students were heating oil to fry donuts on the stovetop when the oil ignited, causing flames approximately 12" high. The fire was extinguished using the apartment extinguisher. Minor grease burns and smoke inhalation injuries were treated. The apartment stove & cord had to be replaced.
## 2017 Fire Statistics

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<th>Residence</th>
<th>No. of Fires</th>
<th>Cause of Fire</th>
<th>Related Injuries</th>
<th>Related Deaths</th>
<th>Property Loss ($)</th>
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On-Campus Student Housing Facilities Fire Safety Systems

BANKS HOUSE:
**Description:** 314 W. Lisburn Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA - Built in the 1960’s, Banks is a single-story wood-frame residence with basement, housing up to five students.  
**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in kitchen & furnace/boiler room, 9VDC battery-operated single-station smoke alarms in each bedroom and on each floor, carbon monoxide detector.  

Note: The Banks House was demolished on November 20, 2015.

BERTRAM HOUSE:
**Description:** 236 N. Grantham Rd., Dillsburg, PA - Housing up to six students, Bertram was built circa 1940. It is a two-story wood-frame building with basement and has a cinder block exterior.  
**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in kitchen & furnace/boiler room, 9VDC battery-operated single-station smoke alarms in each bedroom and on each floor, carbon monoxide detector.

FOREMAN HOUSE:
**Description:** 521 Grantham Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA - Foreman was built circa 1950 and houses up to six residents. It is a two-story wood-frame house with brick veneer.  
**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in kitchen & furnace/boiler room, 9VDC battery-operated single-station smoke alarms in each bedroom and on each floor, carbon monoxide detector.

FRY RESIDENCE:
**Description:** 375 College Ave., Grantham, PA - Fry is a three-story with basement townhouse style building constructed of masonry walls, precast concrete floors, drywall partitions, with wood trusses and a slate roof. Built in 1982 and completely remodeled in 2007, it has 52 apartments housing approximately 206 students.  
**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in each apartment kitchen & in all common areas, 120VAC tandem-wired single-station smoke alarms with 9VDC battery backup throughout each apartment, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations), full (100%) coverage fire sprinkler system, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), door closers on all apartment entrances, emergency lighting via 12VDC battery packs, carbon monoxide detectors in mechanical rooms.

HARRISBURG INSTITUTE:
**Description:** 28 Dewberry Street, Harrisburg, PA - Completely gutted and renovated in 2006 from an early 20th-century former warehouse, Harrisburg Institute is a two-story student housing structure with basement. Located at 28 S. Dewberry St., Harrisburg, PA 17103, it is capable of housing up to 25 students in nine residential-style apartments. It has exterior masonry (brick) walls, interior drywall partitions on steel studs, fire resistant floor construction on the first floor with wood joists supporting the second floor, with a rubber roof.  
**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in the hallways on each floor, 120VAC tandem-wired smoke alarms accompanied by a smoke detector tied into the building’s general fire alarm system within each apartment, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations in each apartment and in hallways), full (100%) coverage fire sprinkler system, 24/7/365 central alarm monitoring (by Harristown Property Development – 717-238-2726), door closers on all apartment entrances, emergency lighting via 12VDC battery packs, fire hydrant directly outside.
HILL HOUSE:
**Description:** 2716 East St., Mechanicsburg, PA – The Hill House was built in 1911 and is a two-story wood-frame house with basement. It houses six students.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in kitchen & furnace/boiler room, 9VDC battery-operated single-station smoke alarms in each bedroom and on each floor, carbon monoxide detector.

KELLY RESIDENCE:
**Description:** 2775 Tower Rd., Grantham, PA - Built in 1989, Kelly is a three-story with basement townhouse style building constructed of masonry walls, precast concrete floors, masonry partitions, with wood trusses and a slate roof. It has 41 apartments housing approximately 169 students.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in each apartment kitchen & in all common areas, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations), smoke detectors with sounder bases connected to fire alarm system throughout each apartment, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), door closers on all apartment entrances, emergency lighting via generator, carbon monoxide detector in mechanical room connected to fire alarm system.

MELHORN HOUSE:
**Description:** 528 Grantham Rd., Grantham, PA - Melhorn was built in the 1940’s and is a two-story wood-frame house with basement. It houses five students.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in kitchen & furnace/boiler room, 9VDC battery-operated single-station smoke alarms in each bedroom and on each floor, carbon monoxide detector.

MELLINGER RESIDENCE:
**Description:** 325 College Ave., Grantham, PA - Mellinger is a three-story with basement townhouse style building constructed of masonry walls, precast concrete floors, drywall partitions, with wood trusses and a slate roof. It has 41 apartments housing approximately 165 students and was built in 1985.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in each apartment kitchen & in all common areas, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations), smoke detectors with sounder bases connected to fire alarm system throughout each apartment, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), emergency lighting via 12VDC battery packs, carbon monoxide detector in mechanical room.

NAUGLE RESIDENCE:
**Description:** 395 College Ave., Grantham, PA - Built in 1983, Naugle is a three-story with basement dormitory style building constructed of masonry walls, precast concrete floors, masonry partitions, with wood trusses and a slate roof. It houses approximately 273 students. It has been through several stages of partial renovation through the years, the most recent of which was in 2009.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in all common areas, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations) with fail-safe operation on all interior stairwell doors, partial (~25%) coverage fire sprinkler system, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), emergency lighting via generator, carbon monoxide detector in mechanical room.

NORTH COMPLEX Section A – Hess Residence:
**Description:** Originally comprised of two separate dormitories built in 1965 (Miller Residence, or Section C, 390 College Ave., Grantham, PA) and 1970 (Hess Residence, or Section A, 370 College Ave., Grantham, PA), the original wings were completely remodeled in 1996 and a new wing (Grantham Residence, or Section B, 380 College Ave., Grantham, PA) was added at that time. The original wings have three-stories with basement and are constructed of structural steel framing, masonry walls and partitions, and poured concrete floors. The new wing is constructed of precast concrete floors with masonry walls and partitions, and has three floors with basement and a mechanical penthouse (added in 2011). The entire complex houses approximately 439 students.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in all common areas, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations) with fail-safe operation on all interior stairwell doors, full (100%) coverage fire sprinkler system, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), dry standpipe (F.D. connections) in all stairwells, emergency lighting via generator, carbon monoxide detector in mechanical room.
NORTH COMPLEX Section B – Grantham Residence:
Description: Originally comprised of two separate dormitories built in 1965 (Miller Residence, or Section C, 390 College Ave., Grantham, PA) and 1970 (Hess Residence, or Section A, 370 College Ave., Grantham, PA), the original wings were completely remodeled in 1996 and a new wing (Grantham Residence, or Section B, 380 College Ave., Grantham, PA) was added at that time. The original wings have three-stories with basement and are constructed of structural steel framing, masonry walls and partitions, and poured concrete floors. The new wing is constructed of precast concrete floors with masonry walls and partitions, and has three floors with basement and a mechanical penthouse (added in 2011). The entire complex houses approximately 439 students.
Fire Safety Equipment: Fire extinguishers in all common areas, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations) with fail-safe operation on all interior stairwell doors, full (100%) coverage fire sprinkler system, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), dry standpipe (F.D. connections) in core stairwell, emergency lighting via generator.

NORTH COMPLEX Section C – Miller Residence:
Description: Originally comprised of two separate dormitories built in 1965 (Miller Residence, or Section C, 390 College Ave., Grantham, PA) and 1970 (Hess Residence, or Section A, 370 College Ave., Grantham, PA), the original wings were completely remodeled in 1996 and a new wing (Grantham Residence, or Section B, 380 College Ave., Grantham, PA) was added at that time. The original wings have three-stories with basement and are constructed of structural steel framing, masonry walls and partitions, and poured concrete floors. The new wing is constructed of precast concrete floors with masonry walls and partitions, and has three floors with basement and a mechanical penthouse (added in 2011). The entire complex houses approximately 439 students.
Fire Safety Equipment: Fire extinguishers in all common areas, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations) with fail-safe operation on all interior stairwell doors, full (100%) coverage fire sprinkler system, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), dry standpipe (F.D. connections) in core stairwell, emergency lighting via generator.

SCHRAG (RAFIKI) HOUSE:
Description: 355 College Ave., Grantham, PA - Schrag was built in the 1960’s and was remodeled in 1997. It is a one-story wood-frame house with basement and brick veneer, and it houses up to seven students.
Fire Safety Equipment: Fire extinguishers in kitchen & furnace/boiler room, 120VAC tandem-wired single-station smoke alarms with strobe lights in each bedroom and on each floor, carbon monoxide detector, 12VDC emergency lighting, door closers.

SIMPSON HOUSE:
Description: 418 W. Lisburn Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA - Built in the 1960’s, Simpson is a one-story wood-frame house with basement. It houses up to five students.
Fire Safety Equipment: Fire extinguishers in kitchen & basement, 9VDC battery-operated single-station smoke alarms in each bedroom and on each floor.

Note: The Simpson House was demolished on December 21, 2015.

SMITH RESIDENCE:
Description: 400 College Ave., Grantham, PA - Smith is a three-story (with basement only in Section C for laundry facilities) townhouse style building constructed of masonry walls, precast concrete floors, drywall partitions, with wood trusses and a slate roof. It has 36 apartments housing approximately 140 students. It was built in 1979 and completely remodeled in 1999.
Fire Safety Equipment: Fire extinguishers in each apartment kitchen & in all common areas, 120VAC tandem-wired single-station smoke alarms throughout each apartment, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations), 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), emergency lighting via 12VDC battery packs, carbon monoxide detector in mechanical room.

SOUTH COMPLEX Section A – Sollenberger Residence:
Description: Originally comprised of two separate dormitories built in 1967 (Sollenberger Residence, or Section A, 360 Center Dr., Grantham, PA) and 1973 (Bittner Residence, or Section C, 320 College Ave., Grantham, PA), the original wings were completely remodeled in 1997 and a new wing (Mountain View Residence, or Section B, 370 Center Dr., Grantham, PA) was
added at that time. The original wings have three-stories with basement and are constructed of structural steel framing, masonry walls and partitions, and poured concrete floors. The new wing is constructed of precast concrete floors with masonry walls and partitions, and has four floors with basement plus sub-basement. The entire complex houses approximately 489 students.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in all common areas, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations) with fail-safe operation on all interior stairwell doors, full (100%) coverage fire sprinkler system, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), wet standpipe (F.D. connections) in all stairwells, emergency lighting via generator, door closers only on all Section B resident room doors.

**SOUTH COMPLEX Section B – Mountain View Residence:**

*Description:* Originally comprised of two separate dormitories built in 1967 (Sollenberger Residence, or Section A, 360 Center Dr., Grantham, PA) and 1973 (Bittner Residence, or Section C, 320 College Ave., Grantham, PA), the original wings were completely remodeled in 1997 and a new wing (Mountain View Residence, or Section B, 370 Center Dr., Grantham, PA) was added at that time. The original wings have three-stories with basement and are constructed of structural steel framing, masonry walls and partitions, and poured concrete floors. The new wing is constructed of precast concrete floors with masonry walls and partitions, and has four floors with basement plus sub-basement. The entire complex houses approximately 489 students.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in all common areas, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations) with fail-safe operation on all interior stairwell doors, full (100%) coverage fire sprinkler system, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), wet standpipe (F.D. connections) in all stairwells, emergency lighting via generator, door closers only on all Section B resident room doors.

**SOUTH COMPLEX Section C – Bittner Residence:**

*Description:* Originally comprised of two separate dormitories built in 1967 (Sollenberger Residence, or Section A, 360 Center Dr., Grantham, PA) and 1973 (Bittner Residence, or Section C, 320 College Ave., Grantham, PA), the original wings were completely remodeled in 1997 and a new wing (Mountain View Residence, or Section B, 370 Center Dr., Grantham, PA) was added at that time. The original wings have three-stories with basement and are constructed of structural steel framing, masonry walls and partitions, and poured concrete floors. The new wing is constructed of precast concrete floors with masonry walls and partitions, and has four floors with basement plus sub-basement. The entire complex houses approximately 489 students.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in all common areas, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations) with fail-safe operation on all interior stairwell doors, full (100%) coverage fire sprinkler system, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), wet standpipe (F.D. connections) in all stairwells, emergency lighting via generator, door closers only on all Section B resident room doors.

**WITMER RESIDENCE:**

*Description:* Built in 1987, Witmer is a four-story with basement dormitory style building constructed of masonry walls, precast concrete floors, masonry partitions, with wood trusses and a slate roof. It has housing for approximately 307 students.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in all common areas, automatic fire alarm system (smoke/heat detectors with manual pull stations) with fail-safe operation on all interior stairwell doors, smoke detectors connected to the fire alarm system in each room, partial (~25%) coverage fire sprinkler system, 24/7/365 proprietary protective signaling system (in-house by Dispatch Services Office), dry standpipes (F.D. connections) in all stairwells, emergency lighting via generator, door closers on all resident room doors, carbon monoxide detector in mechanical room.

**WOODLAND HOUSE:**

*Description:* Built in 1973 and remodeled in 1995. It is a one-story wood-frame house with basement, and houses up to nine students and one staff adviser.

**Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire extinguishers in kitchen/laundry room & basement, 9VDC battery-operated single-station smoke alarms in each bedroom and on each floor.
Number of Fire Drills – 2015
Fire exit drills are held on our Grantham Campus at least once a semester in each of our traditional dormitories and townhouse-style apartment residences; we currently do not hold fire drills in our single-family-style housing. During 2015 there were a total of sixteen fire drills held in our student residences – one per semester for each of the major residences.

No fire drills were held at the Messiah College Harrisburg Institute in 2015.

Number of Fire Drills – 2016
Fire exit drills are held on our Grantham Campus at least once a semester in each of our traditional dormitories and townhouse-style apartment residences; we currently do not hold fire drills in our single-family-style housing. During 2016 there were a total of sixteen fire drills held in our student residences – one per semester for each of the major residences.

No fire drills were held at the Messiah College Harrisburg Institute in 2016.

Number of Fire Drills – 2017
Fire exit drills are held on our Grantham Campus at least once a semester in each of our traditional dormitories and townhouse-style apartment residences; we currently do not hold fire drills in our single-family-style housing. During 2017 there were a total of sixteen fire drills held in our student residences – one per semester for each of the major residences.

No fire drills were held at the Messiah College Harrisburg Institute in 2017.

Institutional Policies on Portable Electrical Appliances, Smoking, and Open Flames in a Student Housing Facility
The use of electrical appliances is limited for safety reasons. Only small appliances with enclosed coils are permitted (i.e., corn poppers, coffee pots). Restricted appliances include hotplates, refrigerators of more than 5 cubic feet, and 5-light floor and desk plastic five shade lamps. Cooking of meals must be confined to apartment residence kitchens. Stove burners, toaster ovens, tabletop grills, toasters, and other appliances that heat up should never be left unattended. Counters should be kept clear and small appliances unplugged after use. Kitchens in residence halls are not intended to be used for regular meal preparations without prior approval of residence director and in conjunction with an approved meal plan exemption. Student-owned refrigerators are permitted if they are less than five cubic feet in capacity. The use of supplemental air conditioners, window fans, sun lamps, halogen lamps and supplemental heaters are prohibited in all residences. Any questions about the electrical capabilities of satellite housing should be directed to Facility Services. Students who damage the circuitry by overloading it may be responsible for the cost to restore the system.

Safety steps to prevent and reduce the risk of electrical fires in student housing include:

- Purchase and use only UL-rated electrical appliances and power cords. (Do not bring “home-made” cords)
- Do not “piggy-back” or “daisy-chain” extension cords.
- Use power strips with an over-current protector that will shut off power automatically if there is too much current being drawn.
- Never “piggy-back” or “daisy-chain” power strips by plugging one into another.
- Power strips must be directly plugged into the wall outlet.
- Do not tack or nail an electrical cord to any surface, or run cords across traffic paths, under rugs or furniture.
- Use light bulbs with the correct wattage for lamps. If no indication is on the product, do not use a bulb with more than 60 watts.
- Keep all electrical appliances and cords safely away from bedding, curtains and other flammable material.
- Unplug small household appliances when not in use and all electronics when away for extended periods.
- No triple adapters or cube adapters are permitted. They do not have the appropriate over-current protection or reset capabilities.

Older wiring and outlets in student housing may not be able to handle the increased electrical demand of today’s college student. If use of a device frequently causes power to trip off, or if its power cord or the outlet feels hot, it should be disconnected immediately and the condition reported to the Department of Facility Services immediately (ext. 6011). Never attempt to alter a three-prong plug to fit in a two-prong outlet. Doing so can result in severe injury and damage to your appliance.

Messiah College is a smoke free/tobacco free campus, and as such, smoking is not permitted anywhere within our campus facilities. Additionally, the consumption of any form of alcoholic beverage is strictly prohibited. Resident students who violate these regulations will be referred to the Student Affairs Office and will be counseled for their actions, as well be sanctioned according to the severity of the violation.

As provided by section 308.3.8 of the *International Fire Code* (2006 ed.), and as adopted by the local authority having jurisdiction (i.e., Upper Allen Township), candles, incense, and similar open-flame-producing items are prohibited in sleeping units in dormitory occupancies. Messiah College has expanded this regulation to prohibit the above items anywhere within a student residence (except within the residence directors’ apartments).

When used as part of a religious service, and not involving the handling of individual candles by the participants/congregation, a permit does not need to be secured in advance from the Township Fire Marshal; however, any other use requires an “operational permit” to be obtained by requesting it at least two weeks in advance of the event.

No recreational fires are permitted, but bonfires (see Bonfire/Campfire Policy) are allowed only by authorization from the Conference Services Office -- even this is dependent upon weather conditions and other restrictions as established by local and state governments’ fire hazard declarations.

Resident students are not permitted to bring charcoal or gas grills to campus due to the inherent fire and carbon monoxide poisoning hazards they present. However, Messiah College has provided several permanently installed charcoal grills safely located in the vicinity of the dormitories for anyone’s use. See the College’s Guidelines and Policy for the Safe Use of Outdoor Grills. Large groups/organizations can reserve the use of the college’s large portable charcoal grill through the Dining Services Office.

Procedures are established and published for safe student use of Tiki Torches.

All residents are required to familiarize themselves with, and comply with all aspects of the college’s safety and decorating guidelines, found in the Messiah College Student Handbook.

**Fire Safety Education and Training Programs**

Residence Life policies related to fire safety can be found in the Messiah College Student Handbook. Mandatory informational sessions about residence hall regulations are held at the beginning of each fall semester for all residents.

The Fire and Safety Systems Coordinator provides fire safety training to several groups of staff and students within areas or departments where the potential for a fire would have a devastating effect, or the persons or those they are in charge of are considered to be at somewhat higher risk than the rest of the campus community. Some of these areas include Resident Assistants and Daycare staff. This training is usually comprised of a PowerPoint Presentation in a classroom setting,
occasionally followed by a tour of the work site while pointing out the fire protection systems and how to use them. This training is sometimes accompanied by hands-on fire extinguisher training for all participants.

Residents are required to keep hallways, stairwells, and all common areas clear of trash, storage, bicycles, etc. All trash/recyclables are to be placed in the trash dumpsters/bins located outside of each of the residence halls.

Students are made aware that under Pennsylvania Crimes Code, Sec. 4905, False Alarms to Agencies of Public Safety, “a person who knowingly causes a false alarm of fire or other emergency to be transmitted to or within any organization, official, or volunteer, for dealing with emergencies involving danger to life or property commits a misdemeanor of the first degree.” Depending on the severity of the circumstances, any student who causes a false alarm will be referred to the Student Affairs Office for sanctioning, with the possibility of having the local police becoming involved.

**Fire Drill/Emergency Evacuation Procedures – Grantham Campus**

Fire drills are held in each residence hall during the first few weeks of the Fall Semester and during the midpoint of the Spring Semester. The drills are announced to staff but not to the resident student body as to the time and date. Drills are conducted by the Fire and Safety Systems Coordinator (who is part of the Department of Safety) in conjunction with residence directors, other Department of Safety officers, and Campus Events personnel. A detailed report on each drill is kept on file in the Fire and Safety Systems office, and an incident report is filed within the Department of Safety’s electronic reporting system.

Students who fail to evacuate in a timely manner or do not cooperate with staff in a reasonable manner are referred to the Residence Life Office for disciplinary hearings. Students are counseled regarding the importance of evacuating and are sanctioned under the provisions of the Messiah College Student Handbook. A maximum fine of up to $500.00 may be applied in the case of repeat offenders.

A copy of the Emergency and Fire Drill Evacuation Procedures is posted by the exit from every sleeping room or apartment in the student residences.

It is important to know evacuation procedures and emergency exit locations in the event of a fire. Fire alarms should always be taken seriously, never ignored or taken casually as a drill. Smoke detectors should never be disabled and sprinklers should never be tampered with. If a fire alarm sounds, residents should calmly and quickly follow practiced procedures and immediately exit the building. Doors should be closed behind to prevent fire spread.

**FIRE ALARMS**

When a fire alarm sounds, all persons are required to immediately exit the building. If you discover a fire, first proceed to and activate the nearest fire alarm pull station (usually located near an EXIT or stairway door), and then immediately leave the building via the nearest EXIT. Second, immediately notify Dispatch Services at the emergency phone extension 6565 (or 717-691-6005 via cell phone) from a safe location outside of the building in alarm. Report all fires or smoke conditions no matter how small they may seem, since they often grow out of control rapidly. If warranted, Dispatch Services will make notifications to Residence Life staff of the situation. Individuals found responsible for intentionally causing false fire alarms, for tampering with or theft of any fire safety equipment or any type of safety signage, or for non-compliance with evacuation procedures will be subject to a $500 maximum fine and/or other disciplinary actions.

- When alarm sounds, remain calm and close room window(s).
- Grab only the clothing necessary for existing weather conditions. Do not attempt to salvage personal belongings.
- Turn off all electrical appliances, including stoves/ovens and room lights.
Feel lock and/or top gap between door and frame to see if it is hot. If it is, don’t open it - instead, if you can do so safely, use window to escape or summon help by yelling. Keep window closed if smoke enters room through it.

Close but do not lock room/apartment door(s) behind you.

Stay low under smoke and toxic fumes, crawl on hands and knees, if necessary.

Do not use elevators; use stairways only.

Leave by the nearest EXIT. Do not run. Leave building directly from stairway; do not use your ID card to pass through doors during evacuation.

Leave by the nearest EXIT. Do not run. Leave building directly from stairway; do not use your ID card to pass through doors during evacuation.

Remain clear of building by at least 50 to 100 feet; move beyond sidewalks if necessary, but never stand on roadways or in parking lot aisles.

Never re-enter building for any reason, even if alarm signals are silenced. Wait until permission is granted by person in charge of drill or fire scene, (i.e., Dept. of Safety Officer, drill coordinator, resident director, or ultimately, the township Fire Chief).

In an actual EMERGENCY (especially if you are trapped in your room by smoke or fire), use the phone in that room/apartment to summon assistance by dialing:

- Messiah College Dispatch Services – extension 6565, or extension 6005 (717-691-6005 via cell phone), or,
- Cumberland County Dispatch - 9-911 (dialing 9 first gets you an outside line from a campus phone).

Fire Drill/Emergency Evacuation Procedures – Harrisburg Institute

Fire drills are conducted in order to familiarize residents with proper exit procedure and to establish the conduct of the drill as a matter of routine. Emphasis, therefore, is placed upon orderly evacuation under proper discipline rather than upon speed. Non-participation in a fire drill is tantamount to pulling a false alarm or unnecessarily discharging a fire extinguisher, and will be treated as a disciplinary offense.

When the fire alarm sounds (for a drill or otherwise), residents should simply stop whatever it is that they are doing, turn off any electric appliances, and leave the building. The last person to leave a room should be certain that the door is closed, but not locked. Residents should be responsible for one another; that is, persons who are sleeping, showering, or who have any sort of handicap which may make their participation in a fire drill difficult, should be aided by their fellow residents.

Once outside, participants should remain quiet and orderly so that any special instructions from staff persons may be easily heard and understood. Once it has been determined that all residents have fully participated (i.e., that no one has tried to “hide out” inside the building) the drill should be considered complete and residents will be permitted re-entry by the attending staff person.

Procedure

1) The Harristown Property Services and the Messiah College Department of Safety should be called to inform their personnel of the intent to conduct fire drills and drills should be scheduled in collaboration with these offices. This procedure is important to ensure the fire department is not called to respond to the alarm.

2) The director of community life and two other representatives from the Messiah College Department of safety, in addition to the appropriate Harristown Property Services staff should be present for the drill: one on the sidewalk to record exit conduct and maintain order, one to operate and silence the alarm, and one to check through the building(s) to ensure proper participation.
3) The alarm should be sounded by engaging the manual “pull station” nearest the fire alarm control panel.

4) As residents are exiting, a staff person should move throughout the building(s), ensuring that residents are complying with the drill procedure. Once the staff person is satisfied that all residents have exited, he/she should notify the staff person at the alarm panel, who should then silence and reset the alarm.

5) Throughout this operation, the staff person on the sidewalk should record the starting time (when the alarm began), the ending time (when the alarm was silenced), the number of participants, and any special notes regarding resident conduct. A form shall be provided for the recording of all drill information.

After all drills have been completed and all alarm panels have been properly silenced and reset, the Harristown property services should be notified and informed that the drills have concluded.

**Reporting a Fire – Grantham Campus**

All fires on campus, no matter how small, even if they have been extinguished by the reporting person(s), must be reported to:

**MESSIAH COLLEGE DISPATCH SERVICES** – dial extension 6565, or extension 6005 (717-691-6005 via cell phone),
or, **CUMBERLAND COUNTY DISPATCH** – from a campus phone dial 9, then 911.

Dispatch Services will immediately initiate their emergency response procedures and dispatch officers to the scene to assess the situation. If a caller reports either fire or smoke within a building, the dispatcher is to automatically phone Cumberland County Dispatch (911) to request a fire department response.

**Future Fire Safety Plans**

In recent years, Messiah College has installed an updated and improved fire alarm monitoring system that receives fire alarm signals from any of twenty-six buildings, including all dormitories, on campus in virtually seconds after a fire alarm system has been activated. This system is monitored 24/7 (including holidays) by Department of Safety personnel located in the Dispatch Services Office in the Eisenhower Campus Center.

During the summer of 2013 the fire alarm system and 120VAC single-station smoke alarms in the dorm rooms of Witmer Residence were replaced with a new addressable system that includes addressable smoke detectors in every dorm room. These detectors are monitored by the fire alarm system and report directly to the Dispatch Services Office via the proprietary protective signaling system.

During the summer of 2016, Mellinger Residence’s fire alarm system and its apartments’ 120VAC single-station smoke alarms were replaced with a new addressable system that includes addressable smoke detectors with sounder bases in all of those apartments. These detectors are monitored by the fire alarm system and indicate any activation from within the apartments, sending alarm signals directly to our Dispatch Services Office via the proprietary protective signaling system.

Messiah College is continuously seeking improved technology to better warn the community of fires and potential fire situations. Because all of our systems are in compliance with the appropriate local, state, and federal fire codes, we are hopeful that funding for future automatic sprinkler systems will be forthcoming for those buildings without such protection, although we have no definitive plans for our student residences at this time. Messiah College is also constantly evaluating the state and condition of the automatic fire alarm systems in each campus building, and we continue to update/renovate our systems as necessary.
Further information and policies regarding fire safety are found at Fire and Safety Systems, which is a part of the Department of Safety.

Maintained by: Valerian Curd, Fire & Safety Systems Coordinator
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