

Unity Fire Department Chief's Desk Article

November, 2022 Edition

Stay Fire Safe

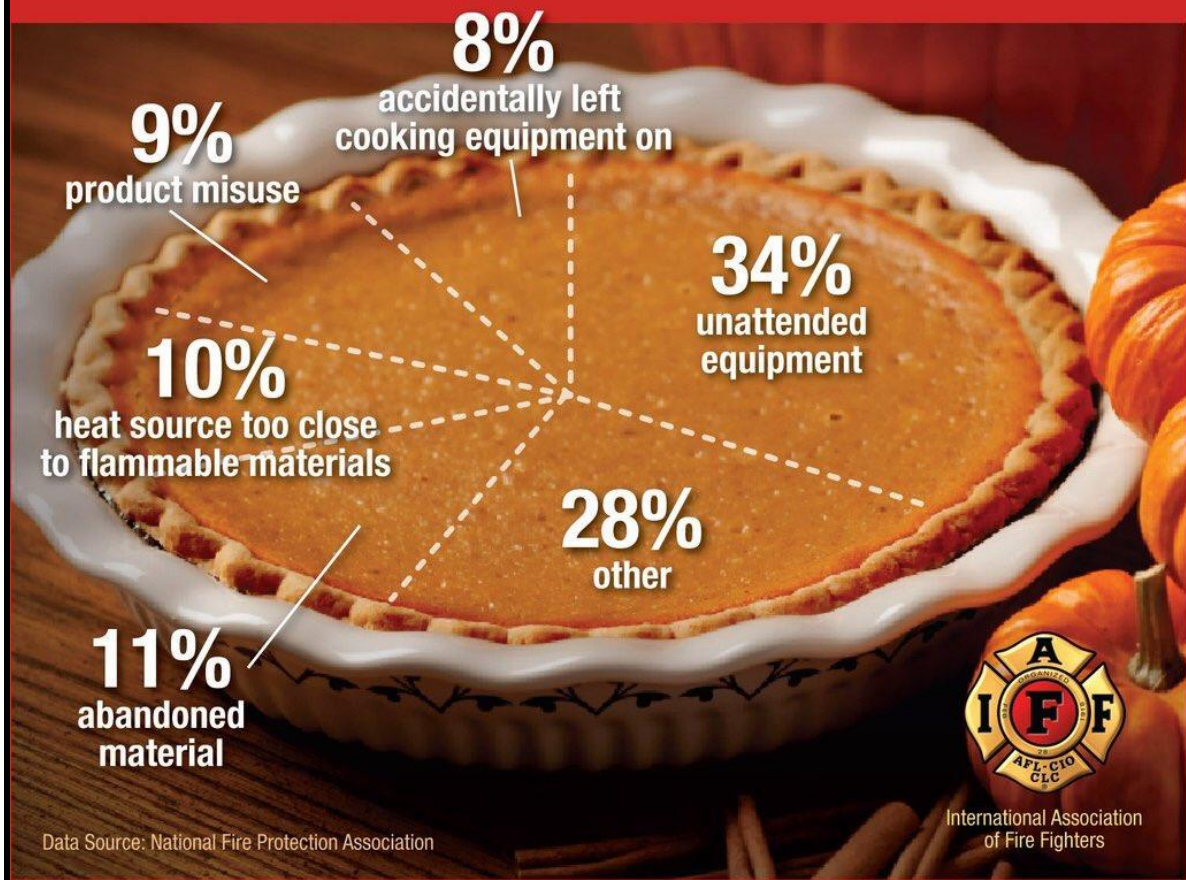


Happy Thanksgiving

Written by Chief Blaine Parsons

THANKSGIVING SAFETY

Fire fighters say the greatest number of home cooking fires occur on **Thanksgiving Day**. Top causes are:



Did you know?

Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas Day, Christmas Eve, and the day before Thanksgiving.

Be fire safe:

- Don't leave food unattended.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey, and check on it frequently.
- Make and practice a fire escape plan.
- Keep anything that can catch fire (oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging) away from the stovetop.

TURKEY FRYER TIPS



Turkey fryer mishaps are one of the leading causes of Thanksgiving cooking fires. Avoid using deep fat turkey fryers. If you decide to use one, follow these safety tips:

Turkey fryers should always be used outdoors a safe distance from buildings and any other flammable materials.



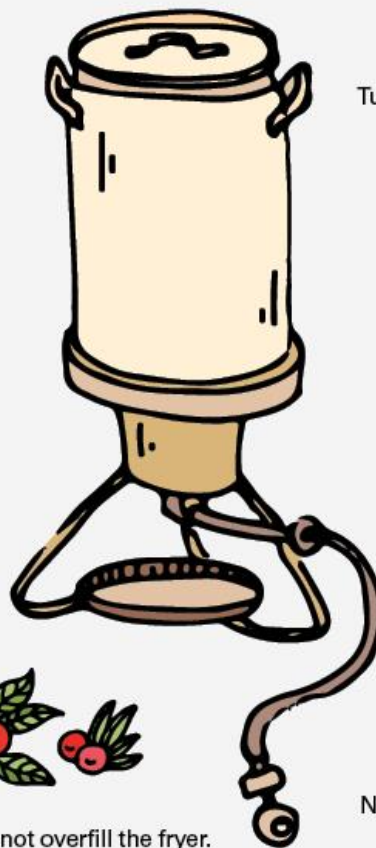
Make sure the fryers are used on a flat surface to reduce accidental tipping.



Make sure the turkey is completely thawed and dried. Water causes oil to spill over, leading to fire or even an explosion.



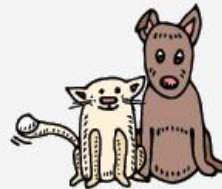
Use the right amount of oil – do not overfill the fryer.



Turn the gas off before placing the turkey in the fryer.



Never leave the fryer unattended.

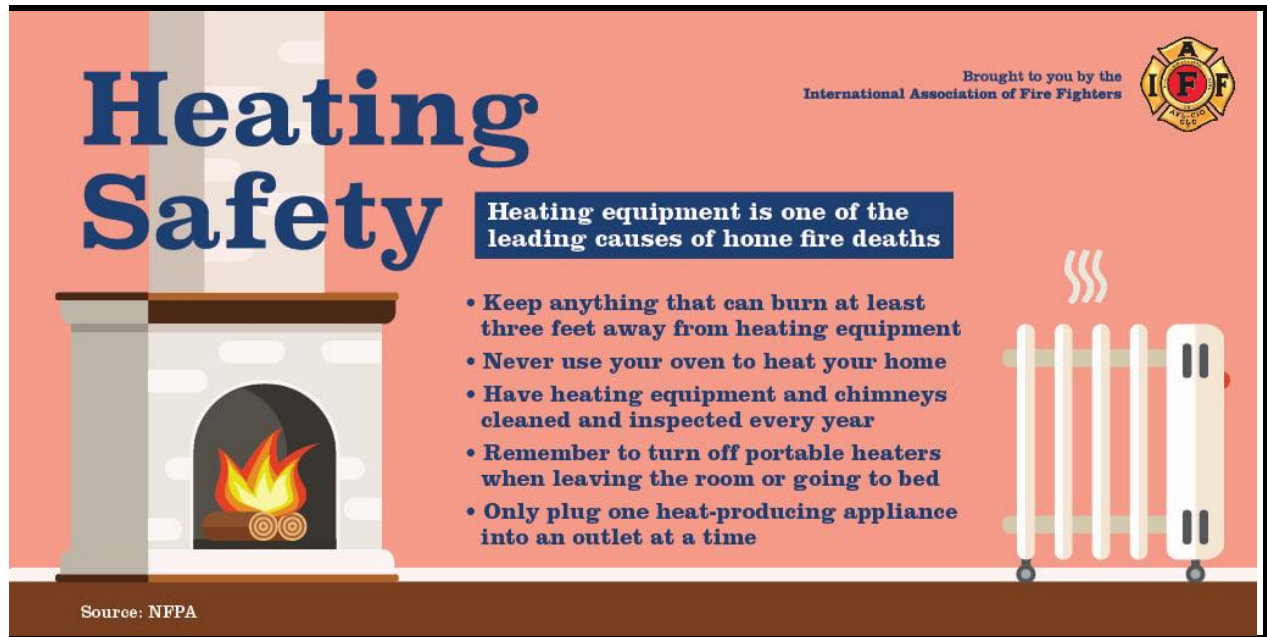


Never let children or pets near the fryer.



Keep an all-purpose fire extinguisher nearby. Never use water to extinguish a grease fire.

Heating Safety



As we are fast approaching the good old Maine winter season, please double check your heating sources and check your chimneys at least once a month, avoid burning green wood, and never burn any type of trash or plastics in your fireplace.

The hot synthetics of the foreign materials will cool off as it rises up your chimney and sticks to the chimney liner, this will cause build-up and potentially cause a blocked chimney or chimney fire.

Also your furnace should be serviced annually and to the manufacturers recommendations. By following these simple tips can save you thousands of dollars in damages.

Unity Fire Department Auxiliary

The Unity Fire Department Auxiliary was re-established in 2018 with the purpose to have a call force of volunteers to provide refreshments to our rehab stations on major emergency incidents.

This thoughtful group of many talents and resources individuals, always go above and beyond to support our fire department. Recently the Auxiliary hosted a baked bean dinner, with all the fixings with the proceeds to purchase grave markers for the deceased Unity firefighters that have served the town of Unity and that are buried in Unity Cemeteries.

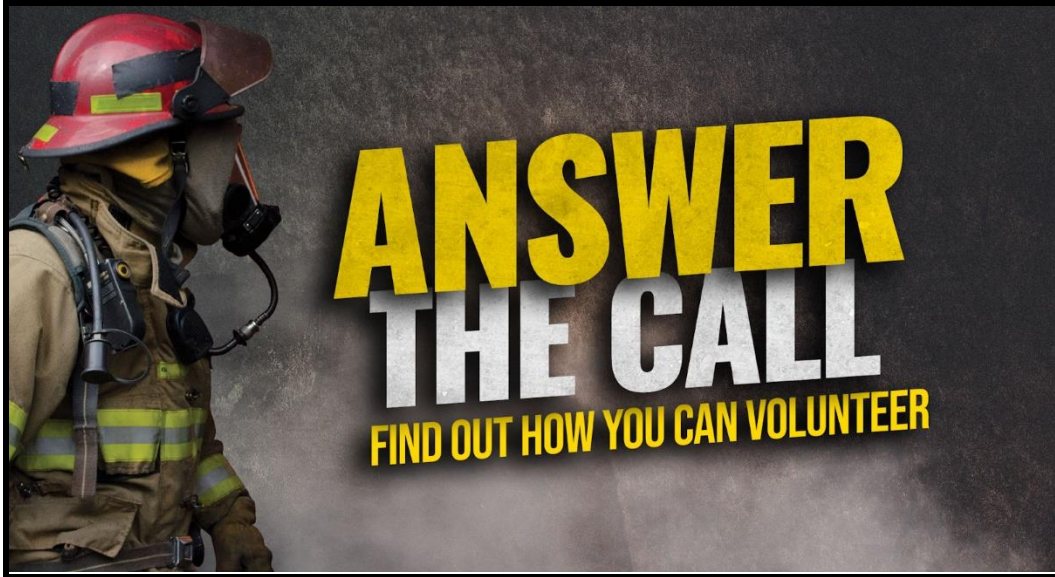
The dinner was a success. At this time I would like to thank this group for all the behind the scenes they do. We appreciate you more than words can express.

If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary, Please Reach out to President Maureen Haley on facebook instant messenger, or by phone at (207)948-5244 for more information. They are always looking for more people to join.

Incident Responses for October

10/02/22	14:47 hours	Smoke Investigation/Woods Fire	Mussey Rd, Unity
10/03/22	09:02 hours	Agency assist Unity Ambulance	School St, Unity
10/08/22	23:30 hours	Car Accident, Jaws of life Mutual Aid	Detroit Rd, Troy
10/12/22	20:42 hours	Car Accident, Property Damage	Bangor Rd, Unity
10/17/22	12:50 hours	Fire prevention, Speaking Engagement	School St, Unity
10/23/22	09:29 hours	Car Accident, Property Damage	Stevens Rd, Unity
10/23/22	18:26 hours	Structure fire, Standby Mutual Aid	Welsh Rd, Jackson
10/25/22	17:08 hours	Traffic Hazard, Tree Blocking Road	Thorndike Rd, Unity

Recruitment & Retention



The Town of Unity Fire Department is looking for dedicated men or women to serve the community by being a volunteer/call firefighter. We are looking for personnel who have a desire to serve and are willing to give of their time to help the community and the visitors to our community. The Unity Fire Department is a paid by call department responsible for providing fire protection services to over 2,500 residents in the 52 square miles of the towns of Unity and Unity Plantation limits. The department runs an average of 150 calls annually. Unity Fire Department promotes fire prevention and education, responds to fire, and rescue calls.

The members of Unity Fire Department serve our community day and night. We will provide the opportunity for training and certifications for this adventure.

Do you qualify?

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Have a valid Driver's License, with no major violations
- An acceptable criminal history
- Be in good physical health and able to carry heavy objects
- Be willing to obtain a CPR/AED/First Aid certification
- Act in a professional manner at all times
- Abide by department and towns policies
- Be willing to get up in the middle of the night to help ANYONE

For more information, please contact Chief [Blaine Parsons](#) (207)660-3526 (Cell), or email me at bparsons@unityfiredepartment.com