

Augusta University
Annual Fire Safety Report for Campus Housing
August 4th, 2020

This report contains information related to fire safety in campus housing at Augusta University (AU), in accordance with the requirements of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008. The AU Fire Safety Office creates this report annually, relying on information provided by collaborative partners, including but not limited to the AU Department of Public Safety, and the Housing and Residence Life Department.

The AU Fire Safety Office maintains the campus housing Fire Log and reports fire statistics annually in conjunction with the "Annual Crime Report" which provides information in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Crime Statistics Act.

The Augusta University Annual Crime Statistics can be accessed at:

<http://www.augusta.edu/publicsafety/police/stats.php>

Fire Statistics and Fire Log

The Augusta University Fire Safety Office maintains the campus housing Fire Log and all statistics on fires and related injuries, death, and loss in campus housing as defined by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 in section 668.49.

From 2015 to present, five fires have occurred in campus housing, all minor fires involving unattended cooking. No injuries have occurred as a result of these fires, and property damage was less than \$500.00 in each incident.

| Unintentional Fires: | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Cooking | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Smoking materials | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Open Flames | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Electrical | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Heating Equipment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hazardous Products | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Machinery/Industrial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Natural | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Intentional Fires: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Undetermined Fires: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Fire Safety Systems

- University Village Building 1000 is a partially sprinkled residence. All areas of the building are sprinkled with the exceptions of each residence bathroom. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by AU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided to the residents and are located in each apartment under the kitchen sink. Residents are advised to call AU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

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- University Village Building 2000 is a partially sprinkled residence. All areas of the building are sprinkled with the exceptions of each residence bathroom. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by AU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided to the residents and are located in each apartment under the kitchen sink. Residents are advised to call AU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.
- University Village Building 3000 is a partially sprinkled residence. All areas of the building are sprinkled with the exceptions of each residence bathroom. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by AU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided to the residents and are located in each apartment under the kitchen sink. Residents are advised to call AU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.
- University Village Building 4000 is a partially sprinkled residence. All areas of the building are sprinkled with the exceptions of each residence bathroom. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by AU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided to the residents and are located in each apartment under the kitchen sink. Residents are advised to call AU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.
- University Village Building 5000 is a partially sprinkled residence. All areas of the building are sprinkled with the exceptions of each residence bathroom. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by AU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Fire Extinguishers are provided to the residents and are located in each apartment under the kitchen sink. Residents are advised to call AU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.
- Elm Hall is the Graduate Student Housing for Augusta University and is a fully sprinkled residence. It is a brand new residence opening in August 2016. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by AU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. . Residents are advised to call AU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.
- Oak Hall is Undergraduate Housing and is a fully sprinkled residence. It is a brand new residence opening in August 2016. The fire alarm system has individual room smoke detectors, audible alarms and strobes that are part of the building system. The fire alarm system is monitored by AU Public Safety 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. . Residents are advised to call AU Public Safety at 706-721-2911 in the event of a fire.

All common use kitchens in Residence Halls on the Health Science Campus are provided with 10 lb. ABC Fire Extinguishers. All common use kitchen doors are provide with positive latching and fire rated doors.

All fire alarm systems are checked and maintained on an annual basis. Fire Sprinkler systems are checked and maintained on a semi-annual basis by an outside vendor. Sprinkler systems and fire extinguishers are inspected by the Augusta University Fire Safety Office monthly.

Fire Drills

Mandatory supervised fire drills are conducted 4 times a year, during fall, winter, spring, & summer semesters. Fire Drills were conducted on the following dates:

| | | | | |
|--------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------------|
| Elm Hall | 09/4/19 | 12/11/19 | 03/05/20 | 06/18/20 |
| Oak Hall | 09/4/19 | 12/11/19 | 03/05/20 | Closed – Covid |
| University Village | 09/4/19 | 12/11/19 | 03/05/20 | Closed -Covid |

Fire Drills are conducted by the AU Fire Safety Office, and all reports and statistical data are monitored. Details of the fire drill are sent to Housing and Residence Life. Resident Assistants assist with the orderly and timely evacuation of the building and directing students to the designated evacuation site. Students failing to evacuate or participate are noted in the fire drill report that is sent to Housing and Residence Life.

A post-drill review is conducted with all staff and residents to discuss the success of the drill and additional actions that may be necessary for future drills.

Note: Fire Drills were not conducted in June 2020 in Oak Hall and University Village due to the Covid 19 Pandemic and the buildings were closed. A few Graduate students were present in Elm Hall, and a Fire Alarm activation was used for the Fire Drill due to the student’s proper response to the alarm. Fire Drills will resume in September 2020 in Oak Hall and University Village.

Procedures for Evacuation of Campus Housing

All students receive an evacuation destination notice with safety tips from AU Housing and Residence Life upon checking into campus housing. Evacuation routes and destination maps are posted on the back of all unit doors. The route also identifies exits, stairwells, fire alarm pull stations, and fire extinguisher locations.

Common area evacuation diagrams are posted throughout all campus housing facilities, in compliance of with applicable fire codes. All designated evacuation locations are located at least 100 feet from the specific campus housing facility.

Building schematics and emergency information are provided to AU Public Safety and the Augusta Richmond County Fire Department for emergency pre-planning activities. This information is updated on an annual basis by the AU Fire Safety Office. Updated information is provided as a CD for agency use.

Policies on Portable Appliances, Smoking, and Open Flames in Campus Housing

Policies concerning fire safety in campus housing can be found at: <http://www.augusta.edu/housing/>. Additional fire safety information can be found at <http://www.augusta.edu/services/ehs/firesafe/>.

- The *Fire Code Red Policy* can be found at <http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php>. This policy governs fire safety and fire reporting in campus residences.

- The *Holiday, Special Event and Decorating Policy* outlines the decoration and interior lighting safety requirements for the campus. This policy is available at <http://www.augusta.edu/services/ehs/firesafe/>.
- The *Electrical Safety Policy* outlines the use of electrical equipment and appliances on campus and can be found at <http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php>.

Guidelines for Fire Safety in Student Residences

- Smoking: Smoking is not permitted on property that is owned or leased by Augusta University.
- Furnishings: Apartments and rooms are required to have as low a combustibile load as practicable. This means self-renovations such as adding wood paneling to walls and constructing wooden furniture are not allowed.
- Extension cords: Outlet extenders and permanent extension cords are not allowed. All surge protectors are required to be off the floor to keep the cords and housing from being damaged.
- Storage: Improper storage of any materials is a serious violation of State fire codes. Storage is not allowed in heating and air conditioning closets or stairwells. Items blocking electrical panels or doors are a State Fire Code violation.
- Candles: candles are not allowed in student housing.
- Decorations: Paper decorations on doors, ceilings, or walls, and live Christmas trees anywhere are not allowed.
- Appliances: Space heaters are not allowed in campus housing. Permitted appliances are outlined in the Residence Hall living guidebook.
- Unattended cooking: Hot plates are not allowed in student residences. Students must be present when using common area kitchens to cook.
- Fire Safety Equipment: Fire Safety equipment includes, but is not limited to fire alarms, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and unit door closures. Tampering with or the misuse of fire safety equipment is prohibited. This includes removing or disabling a smoke detector. If a smoke detector battery needs to be replaced, students should contact Residence Life at (706) 721-3471. Anyone found vandalizing or using fire safety equipment for any purpose other than safety will be reported to AU Public Safety. Additional fire safety information may be obtained from the Environmental Health and Safety Division web site at <http://www.augusta.edu/services/ehs/firesafe/>.

Fire Safety Education and Training Programs

All AU Resident Assistants are trained on a yearly basis by the Fire Safety Office. Resident Assistants are trained based on fire safety protocols based on issues related to campus residences. This training includes the proper use of Fire Extinguishers. Resident Assistants are trained using the BullEx Fire Extinguisher Simulator.

Fire (Code Red) procedures for campus housing are as follows:

IN CASE OF FIRE:

1. Do not panic; remain calm.
2. Remove persons in immediate danger of the fire. If not already closed, close door to room affected.
3. If room is smoky, get on hands and knees (or stomach) and crawl to door.
4. Feel door knob; if hot do not open door; if cool, open door slowly.
5. If hallway is smoky, stay next to the wall and count the doors as you crawl to exit.
6. Activate the nearest fire alarm box and call the AU Public Safety Division at 706- 721-2911. Give the location and kind of fire.
7. Calmly notify other occupants in the area.
8. Do not prop open doors to exit stairways.
9. If possible, attempt to extinguish the fire with the fire extinguisher provided in your area.
10. Once out of the area, do not return to the building for any reason.

Students are required to demonstrate these procedures when fire drills are conducted by the AU Fire Safety Office. Any student not demonstrating the proper procedures is given remedial instruction on proper procedures.

Reporting of Fire Safety Information

All fire safety concerns should be immediately reported to AU Public Safety at 706-721-2911, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Information related to fire safety reporting for campus housing should be submitted to the AU Fire Safety Office at 706-721-2663.

Plans for Future Improvements in Fire Safety

The AU Fire Safety Office continues to heighten fire safety awareness in Campus Housing by training and increased inspections. Fire Safety training of all Resident Assistants takes place prior to every academic year in August. The AU Fire Safety Office will continue these activities in the future.



Augusta University Fire Statistical Report August 4 th, 2020

| <u>Unintentional Fires:</u> | 2020 (To Date) | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|------|------|------|
| Cooking | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Smoking materials | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Open Flames | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Electrical | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Heating Equipment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
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| Natural | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <u>Intentional Fires:</u> | | | | |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <u>Undetermined Fires:</u> | | | | |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

[For AU Public Safety Crime Statistics click here.](#)



Augusta University RESIDENTIAL FACILITY FIRE LOG

Contact:

Environmental Health and Safety Division, Fire Safety Office: (706) 721-2663

Augusta University Public Safety Division: (706) 721-2911

In accordance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA), this log contains a listing of all fires reported to have occurred in student residential facilities on the Augusta University campus for the calendar year 2019-2020.

As indicated below, one fire occurred in student residential housing on the Augusta University campus in 2018. No fires have occurred in Student Housing during 2019 (to date).

| PSD CASE # | DATE AND TIME | LOCATION | NATURE |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------------|---------|
| N/A | N/A | University Village Bldg 1000 | N/A |
| 15-10-25-164598 | 10/25/2015 10:25 | University Village Bldg 2000 | Cooking |
| N/A | N/A | University Village Bldg 3000 | N/A |
| N/A | N/A | University Village Bldg 4000 | N/A |
| 16-05-08-066368 | 05/08/2016 | University Village Bldg 5000 | Cooking |
| 18-03-20-031036 | 03/20/2018 | University Village Bldg 4000 | Cooking |

For information regarding fire safety, to include fire safety systems, fire drills and policies concerning fire safety, please contact the Augusta University Environmental Health & Safety Division, Fire Safety Office. See links below for more information.

[AU Public Safety Crime Stats](#)

[AU Fire Statistical Report](#)