



Fire Prevention Tips

Hello CSURMA AORMA Members:

A recent trash receptacle fire brought home the value of reviewing our facilities to make sure these receptacles are secured at a distance from entrances and windows. We thought it would be a good idea to forward general tips on arson prevention and hope you will share them with the responsible colleagues in your campus community.

The following guidelines and tips can help reduce the risk of fire on your campus:

- Make sure fire protection devices throughout campus (such as sprinklers, extinguishers and smoke detectors) are in working condition so that potential fire damage is minimized. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is a recognized standard and outlines specific inspection, maintenance and testing practices for fire protection systems. Alliant recommends strict adherence to these practices. This will help to ensure that the systems operate properly when they do respond.
- University Staff should familiarize themselves with fire protection devices throughout the property. Ensure staff is familiar with standard procedures for proper operation of firefighting equipment such as fire sprinklers, smoke detectors and fire extinguishers. Guidelines also need to be established for reporting and investigating all fires. Even small fires should be treated seriously and reported to prevent larger ones from occurring.
- Modify the environment to help prevent fires.
 - ✓ Garbage cans, dumpsters and combustible items should be kept at least 10 feet away from a building, roof overhangs, windows and doors. Secure garbage cans in place to help prevent unauthorized placement.
 - ✓ Remove contents of garbage cans at the end of the day.
 - ✓ When using dumpsters, make sure all discarded materials are placed inside the containers and containers are padlocked during non business hours.
 - ✓ Cut back vegetation and clear away any debris around campus buildings.
 - ✓ Ensure that highly flammable and combustible items (such as gasoline, paint, dead branches and leaves, etc.) are either removed from the property or stored securely so that they cannot be used as fuel for a fire.



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- ✓ Do not allow unauthorized access to sprinkler risers and alarm panel units.
- ✓ Maintain sufficient lighting around building structures, disposal areas, entries and exits. Check lighting with a night walk on campus. Replace any burnt out bulbs and install additional lighting in particularly dark areas.

For more information on this topic, please contact Brent Escoubas at Alliant Risk Control Consulting, (949) 260-5013 or losscontrol@alliantinsurance.com