

Hotel & Motel Safety



Vacations and business travel make hotels and motels our home away from home. It is just as important to be prepared and know what you would do in a hotel/motel emergency as it is in your own home.

BE SAFE WHEN TRAVELING – PLAN AHEAD

- When making your reservations, ask if the hotel/motel has smoke alarms and an automatic fire sprinkler system.
- When you check in, ask the front desk what the fire alarm sounds like.
- When you enter your room, review the escape plan posted in your room. If one is not posted in your room request one from the front desk.
- Locate the fire alarm pull stations on your floor.
- Locate two fire exits that are closet to your room.
- Count the number of doors between your room and the exits. This will assist you in the need of an emergency evacuation.
- Make sure the exits are unlocked. If they are locked, report it to management right away.
- Keep your room key by your bed and take it with you in case smoke and/or fire impedes your escape route(s) so you can re-enter your room.
- If the alarm sounds, leave right away, closing all doors behind you. Use the stairs - never use elevators as you evacuate.
- If you must escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your exit.
- When traveling, take a flashlight with you.

LIFE SAFETY TIPS

- Never/ever smoke in bed!
- If the fire *IS* in your room, get out quickly. Close door, sound the alarm and notify the front desk.
- If the fire is *NOT* in your room, evacuate if it is safe to do so. To check the hallway for fire, feel the door with the back of your hand. If the door is cool, get low to the floor, brace the door with your shoulder and open slowly. If it is clear walk, if there is smoke crawl to the nearest exit.

IF YOU CAN'T ESCAPE...

- **SHUT** off fans, heaters, and room air conditioners.
- **STUFF** wet towels or sheets around the door to seal it.
- **CALL** 911 and let them know your location by room number and floor.
- **WAIT** at the window and signal with a flashlight or turn your room light on and off to attract attention to yourself. Another way to draw attention would be to hang a light colored sheet, towel or blanket from your room window(s).

FACTS

- 1) Cooking is the leading cause of hotel/motel fires with an occurrence rate of 46%.
- 2) Hotel/motel fires are more prevalent in the months of February at 9.2% and March at 9%.
- 3) Hotel/motel fires occur most frequently in the early evening hours peaking between 6pm and 9pm with an occurrence rate of 17%.
- 4) Per the U. S. Fire Administration an estimated 3,900 hotel/motel fires are reported to U. S. fire departments annually. These fire cause an estimated 15 fatalities, 150 injuries, and 76 million dollars in property loss.
- 5) Since the Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990 the incident rate of hotel/motel fires has substantially decreased due in large part to stricter codes and public education.