



December 2022

LOSS CONTROL NEWSLETTER

A

Burn Hazards in the Food Service Industry

December is worldwide food-service safety month. Food preparation and service involves many safety and health hazards. Direct flames are responsible for only a small percentage of burn injuries; the majority of burns sustained in the restaurant industry are caused by deep-fat fryers, followed by hot water and steam burns. Use the following work practices to avoid burns.

When working with deep-fat fryers


- Dry food before placing in hot oil.
- Never leave hot oil unattended.
- Place food in the basket, then slowly lower it into hot oil.
- Gently raise the basket.
- Fill fryers no more than half full.
- Keep liquids away from fryers.
- Cool oil and grease before handling them.

When using stoves and ovens

- Turn off the electric elements and gas flames of the stove when they are not in use.
- Adjust burner flames to cover only the bottom of the pan.
- Wear oven mitts to handle hot objects, and use long gloves for deep ovens.
- Release the pressure safely before you open cookers and steam ovens.

When using pots and pans

- Organize your work area to prevent contact with hot objects and flames.
- Let others know when you are carrying something hot.
- Stand to the side when you work with pots containing boiling liquids.
- Use lids and covers.
- Make sure that metal spoons are not left in pots and pans while cooking.
- Keep pot and pan handles away from hot burners.
- Use oven mitts or a dry cloth to lift lids.
- Open lids away from you.
- Do not use aprons as potholders.



Holiday Safety

The holidays are a time when families gather, parties are scheduled and travel increases. The holidays can also present seasonal safety hazards. Use the following tips to keep you and your loved ones safe this holiday season:

Decorating

- Only use indoor lights indoors and outdoor lights outdoors, and choose the right ladder for the task when hanging lights.
- Avoid placing breakable ornaments or ones with small, detachable parts on lower tree branches where small children can reach them.
- Keep poinsettias, mistletoe and holly away from pets.

Electrical safety

- Avoid electrical fires by purchasing lights from reputable retailers and only those approved by nationally recognized testing labs like UL, Intertek or CSA.
- Inspect both indoor and outdoor lights for broken sockets, frayed wires and loose connections.
- Don't overload outlets with too many electrical devices.

Fire prevention

- Place candles out of the reach of children and where they can't be knocked over.
- Use flameless candles near flammable objects.
- Always use a screen on the fireplace when a fire is burning.
- If using a real tree, make sure it has plenty of water and is at least 3 feet away from heat sources.

Travel safety

- Prepare your car for winter and keep an emergency kit with you.
- Leave early to avoid traffic.
- Designate a sober driver or download a ride-hailing app to your phone ahead of time if you plan to drink at holiday gatherings.

If you have any questions or need assistance regarding workplace safety, please contact your independent insurance agent or the Auto-Owners Loss Control HelpLine at 855.586.5388, or send an email to LossControlSupport@aoins.com.

Any information and recommendations contained in this communication have been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. However, Auto-Owners Insurance Group accepts no legal responsibility for the accuracy, sufficiency, or completeness of such information. Additional safety and health procedures may be required to comply with local, state, or federal law. Content in this document is not legal advice, nor does it amend the terms, conditions, or coverages of any insurance policy issued by Auto-Owners Insurance Group. Copyright © 2022 BLR® - Business & Legal Resources. All rights reserved.