2018 Annual Fire Safety Report

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Fire Marshal’s Office

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FIRE MARSHAL
Walter James

Published annually by the Texas Tech University Fire Marshal.
In accordance with the guidelines established by Texas Tech University, the Texas Tech University Fire Marshal, and pursuant to the federal law 34 CFR 668.49(b), all currently enrolled students, campus employees and all prospective students and prospective employees of Texas Tech University are entitled to request and receive a copy of the Annual Campus Fire Safety Report.

The report contains statistics about the number of fires in on-campus housing, the cause of each fire, the number of injuries and deaths, and the value of property damaged. The report also includes a description of fire systems, the number of fire drills, evacuation procedures, education and training programs, future plans for fire safety improvements, and the institutions policies on appliances, smoking, open flames, and other potential hazards.

All students enrolled at Texas Tech University will receive notification through electronic mail and student portals featuring the exact website address for the current Fire Safety Report. Faculty and staff will also be notified electronically through the techAnnounce email system. Parents will receive notification through a newsletter published by Parent & Family Relations. An advertisement containing information about how to access the report will run in The Daily Toreador for one week. Additional notices will be posted in common areas in campus buildings that are frequented by faculty, staff, students and visitors.

Copies of this report may be obtained in person from the Texas Tech Fire Marshal, the Texas Tech Police Department or on-line at the Police Department’s website under the link “Annual Fire Report” located at: www.depts.ttu.edu/ttpd/fire.php. You may also request that a copy be sent to you via E-mail or U.S. Postal mail by contacting the Texas Tech Fire Marshal at (806) 742-0145 or the Texas Tech Police Department at (806) 742-3931 during normal business hours, 8 a.m. -5 p.m., Monday thru Friday. Copies may also be requested from University Student Housing at (806) 742-2661 or by e-mailing housing@ttu.edu.

Faculty, staff and students at the Texas Tech University Center at Junction may also request or obtain a copy by visiting the Director of Operations office in the administrative offices on campus.
In accordance with the guidelines established by Texas Tech University, the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, the Texas Tech Police Department, and pursuant to the federal law identified as the “Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act”, all currently enrolled students, campus employees and all prospective students and prospective employees are entitled to request and receive a copy of the Annual Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Report.

The report contains statistics about certain specified crimes and related incidents that have been reported to the Texas Tech Police Department and other Campus Security Authorities over the past three years. All incidents contained within the report have either occurred on-campus, in off-campus buildings, or on or near property owned or controlled by Texas Tech University or the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

The report also contains policies and practices pertaining to campus security, crime reporting, alcohol and drugs, victims’ assistance programs, student discipline policies, campus security resources, community safety alerts, crime prevention, access to campus facilities and properties, missing student notification policies and personal safety tips.

The Texas Tech Police Department encourages the reporting of all criminal offenses and campus safety and security concerns, and provides information in this report about how and to whom to report crimes.

All students enrolled at Texas Tech University and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center will receive notification through electronic mail and online student portals featuring the exact website address for the current Campus Crime Report. Faculty and staff will also be notified electronically through the techAnnounce email system. Parents of students will receive notification through a newsletter published by Parent & Family Relations. An advertisement depicting post card information will run in The Daily Toreador for one week. Additional notices will be posted in common areas in campus buildings that are frequented by faculty, staff, students and visitors.

Copies of this report may be obtained in person from the Texas Tech Police Department or on-line at the Texas Tech Police Department’s website under the link “Campus Crime Report” located at: www.depts.ttu.edu/ttpd/clery.php. You may also request that a copy be sent to you via E-mail or U.S. Postal mail by contacting the Texas Tech Police Department during normal business hours, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday at (806) 742-3931. Copies may also be requested from the Office of Student Judicial Programs at Texas Tech University, or from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Office of Student Services.

Faculty, staff and students at the Texas Tech University Center at Junction may also request or obtain a copy by visiting the Director of Operations office in the administrative offices on campus.

Students, Faculty and Staff,

The Texas Tech University Fire Marshal’s Office is committed to creating and maintaining a safe environment for everyone on campus. In addition to this report, the Fire Marshal’s Office encourages all students, faculty and staff to use the resources available to them in order to create and maintain a safer campus. The Fire Marshal’s office has developed a Fire and Life Safety Program that empowers employees and students to follow the correct procedures to ensure the safety of co-workers, other students and visitors, which all students, faculty and staff are encouraged to familiarize themselves with. This program supports Texas Tech’s ultimate goal of cultivating a safe and secure learning, living and working atmosphere. Creating and maintaining such an atmosphere requires the cooperation of all students, faculty and staff. The Fire Marshal’s office appreciates your attention to this matter. Feel free to contact our office with any questions or concerns. We also offer training in fire safety topics and fire extinguisher training. Contact us at (806) 742-0145 or (806) 742-0146.

Sincerely,

Walter James - Director
Texas Tech University Fire Marshal’s Office
The Fire Marshal’s office administers a proactive Fire/Life Safety program. The program is designed to ensure all faculty, staff, students, and visitors are provided with at least the minimum required levels of protection in each campus facility.

The Texas Tech Fire Marshal’s office coordinates with local fire departments for emergency responses and routine inspection of alert and sprinkler systems for campus facilities. They also assist first responders including all law enforcement, fire, and EMS personnel during emergencies by providing up-to-date information about campus facilities, assisting with evacuations, and providing investigative assistance if a fire is determined to be caused by arson.

Most campus buildings, including residential apartments, are fully protected by fire sprinklers and smoke alarm systems. Student residents receive fire/life safety handouts at move-in and are required to participate in annual fire safety drills. The Fire Marshal’s office also aids in the development of Emergency Action Plans for campus buildings and conducts educational programs to help ensure emergency preparedness for students, staff, and faculty.

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The new law requires colleges and universities that maintain on campus housing facilities to compile an annual fire safety report that gives students, parents and the public current information about fires in on-campus housing. Colleges are also required to maintain a fire log that captures specific information about fires that occur in on-campus housing. The log is required to include the date, time, and cause of each fire as well as the number of injuries requiring treatment, the number of deaths and the value of property damage associated with each fire.

This report includes statistics about all applicable fires occurring in 2009. It also includes maps and locations of each student housing facility controlled by Texas Tech University, a description of fire safety systems by building, and information about annual fire drills, housing policies and safety tips.

The health and safety of all university employees, students and visitors to our campus is of paramount importance to everyone working and learning at the University. This concern for safety mirrors the character and strength of Texas Tech’s commitment to its academic mission.

Staff, faculty, students and visitors play an important role in assuring campus safety; they must do what they can to protect themselves and others within the University community and respond appropriately to all emergencies. Employees must avail themselves of information pertaining to the safe conduct of their work, regardless of setting. Students must also participate in fire and life safety programs and respect the safety of others.

The Texas Tech University Fire and Life Safety Program, which is made available to all faculty, staff, students and visitors, contains policies and procedures that, when implemented and maintained, will satisfy the code and legal obligations of the University, help satisfy insurance requirements, prevent loss of life, reduce injury and reduce property damage due to fire and fire related emergencies.

The program is based on state and local regulations, National Fire Protection Association guidelines and Life Safety Code requirements. The program provides roadmaps for fire safety surveys of buildings, fire extinguisher maintenance, and fire safety related training. This training is scheduled for all resident hall occupants each semester and is available to any campus department upon request.

To obtain a complete copy of the Texas Tech University Fire and Life Safety Program, please visit:
http://www.depts.ttu.edu/tpd/fire.php
Possession of the following items are violations of Fire Safety Policy:

- Waterbeds
- Portable Air Conditioners
- Dishwashers
- Washing Machines / Dryers
- Sun Lamps
- Halogen Lamps
- Tanning Beds
- Open Faced Electrical or Heating Appliances
  - Includes hot plates, broilers, space heaters, immersion heaters, toasters, toaster ovens, and George Forman grills
- Fireworks
- Lighter Fluid / Flammable Fuel
- Charcoal
- Any source of open flame
- Candles and Incense
  - Candles, candle warmers, and/or incense, lit or unlit, are not allowed in student rooms and/or public areas in any of the residence halls. Modification of prohibited items for display, such as cutting the wick off of a candle does not make it "legal" or otherwise exempt the item.

Permitted Holiday Decorations

- Christmas Trees
  - Only artificial Christmas trees labeled as fire-retardant will be allowed within the residence halls.
  - Only use low watt, safety rated lights to decorate your tree. Do not place trees or other decorations where they may block exits.
- Christmas Lights
  - Christmas lights cannot be hung in the hallways, but may be displayed in individual rooms.
  - Only use lights certified by recognized testing laboratories and follow the manufacturer’s instructions.
  - Discard any lights with worn, frayed or broken cords. Connect no more than three strands of push-in bulbs that are rated for indoor use.
- Wrapping / Decorating Doors
  - When wrapping doors with paper or decorations, the door must not be covered more than 50%.

Smoking

Texas Tech University is a smoke-free campus and smoking of any kind is not allowed inside any building on campus. This includes all residence halls, public areas, lobbies, hallways, lounges, game rooms, bathrooms, showers, computer rooms, kitchenettes and dining halls. Students may smoke outside as long as they are at least 20 feet from any part of the building and utilize receptacles for disposal.

Fire Safety Equipment Abuse

Besides being an annoyance, a false fire alarm can endanger lives. Tampering with a fire alarm system or fire extinguishers, misuse or tampering with sprinkler systems and other fire safety equipment is a violation of Texas law and the Texas Tech University Student Code of Conduct.

Anyone unnecessarily setting off or tampering with a fire alarm system, sprinkler system or fire extinguisher will be subject to judicial action, financial responsibility and/or referral to the civil authorities for prosecution under Texas law (or all three). Revocation of housing contracts, removal from the residence halls and loss of housing fees will also be considered.

Failure to Evacuate

Failure to evacuate the building during a fire alarm can cause harm to the individual as well as fire safety personnel if a rescue is needed. Failure to evacuate during a fire alarm will result in judicial action, possible monetary fines, and could result in arrest for violation of applicable laws.

Fire Alarm Instructions

Residents should immediately do the following when the fire alarm sounds:

- Put on coat and shoes when possible
- Close and lock your door and take your room key
- Take a large, damp bath towel with you if possible. If smoke is present, cover your mouth and nose.
- Evacuate the building using the most expedient method (Note: Do not use elevators)
- Proceed immediately and in an orderly manner to designated exits
- Avoid moving toward open flame or heavy smoke if possible
- In case of inclement weather, proceed to the lobby of the nearest building or residence hall
- Account for your friends and roommates
- Follow instructions from all emergency personnel, including fireman and police
- Do not re-enter the building until the “all clear” is sounded

Fire Drills

For the protection and safety of residents, fire drills are held every semester. Please read the fire safety information posted in residence hall corridors and become familiar with evacuation routes. Cooperation is expected at all times. All individuals must evacuate immediately when an alarm sounds. Failure to comply will result in judicial proceedings and possibly monetary assessment or revocation of housing privileges.

Did you know....

Between 2004-2008 U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated annual average of 3,800 structure fires in dormitories, fraternities, sororities, and barracks that resulted in 7 civilian deaths, 54 civilian fire injuries, and $29.4 million in direct property damage, annually. These fires were most common during the evening hours between 5 p.m. and 11 p.m., and on weekends. The leading causes of these fires were smoking, cooking accidents, improper trash disposal, and malfunctioning heating and electrical equipment.

(Source: U.S. Fire Administration Nation Fire Incident Reporting System)
The following table contains details about all life safety systems currently installed in University Student Housing.

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STUDENT HOUSING LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS

The following table contains statistics and details about all known fires that occurred in on-campus housing in 2018.
The following table contains statistics and details about all known fires that occurred in on-campus housing in 2017:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 FIRE STATISTICS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Fires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following table contains statistics and details about all known fires that occurred in on-campus housing in 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016 FIRE STATISTICS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TU LUBBOCK CAMPUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bledsoe Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenter Wells Apartments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chatwood Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clement Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coleman Hall</td>
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<td>Gates Hall</td>
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<td>Gordon Hall</td>
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<td>Horn Hall</td>
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<td>Holen Hall</td>
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<td>Knapp Hall</td>
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<td>Mardough Hall</td>
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<td>Murray Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snow Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stangel Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tallington Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weymouth Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following table contains statistics and details about all known fires that occurred in off-campus housing in 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016 FIRE LOG DETAILS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TTPD Case # 16-0627 Gates Hall April 15, 2016 @ 01:45PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Tech Police were dispatched to a report received from a student about his door being damaged from a fire. It was discovered an unknown person set fire to several pieces of paper on the door which caused damage to the door and signs. Property damage was estimated at approximately $20.00. There were no injuries associated with this event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The TTU Fire Marshal was contacted. Classification: Arson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TTPD Case # 16-0771 Weymouth Hall May 2, 2016 @ 11:44PM |
| Texas Tech Police were dispatched to a report received from a Community Advisor about a dorm room door being damaged from a fire. It was discovered an unknown person set fire to the paper name plate on the door which caused damage to the door and signs. Property damage was estimated at approximately $50.00. There were no injuries associated with this event. |
| The TTU Fire Marshal was contacted. Classification: Arson |

| TTPD Case # 16-0784 Weymouth Hall May 2, 2016 @ 11:50PM |
| Texas Tech Police were dispatched to a report received from a Community Advisor about a dorm room door being damaged from a fire. It was discovered an unknown person set fire to the paper name plate on the door which caused damage to the door and signs. Property damage was estimated at approximately $50.00. There were no injuries associated with this event. |
| The TTU Fire Marshal was contacted. Classification: Arson |

| TTPD Case # 16-1968 Wall Hall December 3, 2016 @ 09:12AM |
| Texas Tech Police were dispatched to a report received from a Community Advisor about a wall on fire or being damaged from a fire. It was discovered an unknown person set fire to the wall which caused damage to the wall and signs. Property damage was estimated at approximately $50.00 (total $100.00). There were no injuries associated with this event. |
| The TTU Fire Marshal was contacted. Classification: Arson |