2012 Fire Safety Report

California State University, Chico

The Department of Environmental Health and Safety

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1.0 Campus Fire Right-to-Know Act

The Campus Fire Safety *Right-to-Know Act* is an amendment to the *Higher Education Opportunity Act*. This amendment serves to increase campus fire safety awareness across the nation, providing students and their families with the fire safety records of colleges/universities. Signed into law by President George W. Bush on August 14, 2008, this amendment requires post-secondary institutions to publicly display fire safety information and statistics, much as they already do with other safety statistics, such as campus theft and assault. This information provides prospective and current students of the policies, concerns, and fire safety conditions that are present at the institution in which they have applied or are enrolled.

California State University, Chico, has developed this web-site with all the required information for viewing. Please take time to review our statistics and fire safety information. Let us know if you have any questions in regards to fire safety. We can be reached daily at 530-898-5126 to answer any questions. Thank you for choosing California State University, Chico, and we look forward to helping you through your educational career.

For additional information on the Higher Education Opportunity Act, please visit
http://www.securityoncampus.org/newregs/66849.htm

2.0 Fire System Design

2.1 Below is a description of each on-Campus Student Facility, Fire and Life Safety Systems, including Fire Sprinkler Systems.

Whitney Hall

Whitney Hall is a nine (9) story Residence Hall constructed in 1967. The building contains 544 students, 16 Resident Advisors, 1 Resident Community Coordinator, and 1 Assistant Residence Community Coordinator. The building has a fire sprinkler system in the basement only. The occupant rooms contain a smoke detector to alert the occupants. The corridors, multipurpose rooms, and elevator landings each have either a smoke detector or a rate of rise detector. Each section of occupant rooms has one Resident Advisor (RA) or Resident Coordinator (RC) to assist in emergencies and with evacuations. The building fire/life safety system (fire alarm) is planned to be upgraded in the Summer of 2012 and will include a mass notification system in accordance with the California Fire Code and National Fire Alarm Code. The fire alarm system reports directly to the University Police Dispatch Center.

Sutter Hall

Sutter Hall is a five (5) story Residence Hall constructed in 2010. The building can house 210 students, 10 Resident Advisors, 1 Residence Community Coordinator and 1 Assistant Residence Community Coordinator. The building is the home of the new Dining Hall. The building has a 24 hour front desk attendant. The building is completely equipped with a fire sprinkler system and a fire alarm system with a mass notification system and includes smoke detectors in every room. The corridors, multipurpose rooms, and elevator landings each have either a smoke detector or a rate of rise detector. Each section of occupant rooms has one Resident Advisor (RA) to assist in emergencies and with evacuations. The fire alarm system and fire sprinkler system report directly to the University Police Dispatch Center.

Shasta Hall

Shasta Hall is a two (2) story Residence Hall constructed in 1958. The building contains 210 students, 5 Resident Advisors, and 1 Assistant Residence Community Coordinator. The building does not contain a fire sprinkler system. Each room has a smoke detector that alerts the occupants. The corridors and multipurpose room either have a smoke detector or a rate of rise detector. The building also contains portable fire extinguishers. Each section of occupant rooms has one Resident Advisor (RA) to assist in emergencies and with evacuations. The fire alarm system reports directly to the University Police Dispatch Center.

Lassen Hall

Lassen Hall is a two (2) story Residence Hall constructed in 1958. The building contains 210 students, 5 Resident Advisors, and 1 Residence Community Coordinator. The building does not contain a fire sprinkler system. Each room has a smoke detector that alerts the occupants. The corridors and multipurpose room either have a smoke detector or a rate of rise detector. The building also contains portable fire extinguishers. Each section of occupant rooms has one Resident Advisor (RA) to assist in emergencies and with evacuations. The fire alarm system reports directly to the University Police Dispatch Center.

Esken Hall

Esken Hall is a two (2) story Residence Hall constructed in 1983. The building contains 112 students and 4 Residence Advisors. The building does not contain a fire sprinkler system. Each room has a smoke detector that alerts the occupants. The corridors and multipurpose room either have a smoke detector or a rate of rise detector. The building also contains portable fire extinguishers. Each section of occupant rooms has one Resident Advisor (RA) to assist in emergencies and with evacuations. The building fire/life safety system (fire alarm) has recently been upgraded to newer technology. The fire alarm system reports directly to the University Police Dispatch Center.

Mechoopda Hall

Mechoopda Hall is a two (2) story Residence Hall constructed in 1983. The building contains 120 students, 4 Residence Advisors, and 1 Residence Community Coordinator. The building does not contain a fire sprinkler system. Each room has a smoke detector that alerts the occupants. The corridors and multipurpose room either have a smoke detector or a rate of rise detector. The building also contains portable fire extinguishers. Each section of occupant rooms has one Resident Advisor (RA) to assist in emergencies and with evacuations. The building fire/life safety system (fire alarm) has recently been upgraded to newer technology. The fire alarm system reports directly to the University Police Dispatch Center.

Konkow Hall

Konkow Hall is a house style unit with a common living room, two gender-specific restrooms, a kitchen, and a computer lab. Konkow Hall was constructed in 1983. Each unit houses 13 residences and one Resident Advisor (RA) and the six units are designed for this special program. The Assistants Residence Community Coordinator is also housed In cooperation with faculty in their academic departments, the residents of each housing unit create a living environment to enhance their academic program. Each unit is equipped with smoked detector in the rooms as well as the common areas. A fire extinguisher is also equipped with the units. The building fire/life safety system (fire alarm) has recently been upgraded to newer technology. The alarm system reports to the University Police Dispatch Center.

2.2 Building Fire/Life Safety Devices Matrix

Residence Hall	Number of Beds	Sprinkler	Fire Extinguishers	Fire Alarm	Smoke Detector in each Residence Hall Room tied to Main FACP	Smoke Detector in Each Residence Hall Room 120v/battery Back-up	Smoke Detectors in each Residence Hall Room 9v only
Whitney Hall	560	(1)Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Sutter Hall	222	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Shasta Hall	210	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Lassen Hall	210	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Esken Hall	232	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Mechoopda Hall	232	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Konkow Hall	78	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
University Village	614	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No

(1) Basement only

3.0 Fire Drill Information

Fire drills in the Residence Halls will be held periodically, and at least once a semester. When the fire alarm sounds, everyone is required to leave the building immediately using their closest emergency exit. Failure to leave the building immediately or to follow directions of Residence Hall staff or other authorities will result in serious University discipline and potential civil prosecution.

3.1 Number of Fire Drills for 2011

Residence Hall	Number of Fire Drills
Esken Hall	2
Konkow Hall	2
Lassen Hall	2
Mechoopda Hall	2
Shasta Hall	2
Sutter Hall	2
Whitney Hall	2

4.0 Policies and/or Rules

4.1 Appliances

Residence Halls

Appliances are limited to fully enclosed coffee makers, electric kettles, blenders, and fully encapsulated air popcorn poppers. No exposed element appliances are allowed in your bedroom (e.g., George Foreman grills, toaster ovens, space heaters or hot plates). Extension cords are prohibited. Power strips with surge suppressors are required for all appliances and computers. Space heaters, halogen lamps, plastic-shaded floor lamps (see Halogen and Other Lamps) and stand-alone microwaves are also strictly prohibited.

4.2 Candles and Incense

All Buildings

Burning candles and incense is never allowed in University Housing. These items are prohibited, even if they are not lit or have never been lit, due to extreme fire hazard and are considered an egregious violation of the University Housing Policy. Therefore, candles and/or incense are never permitted in any Residence Hall or apartment.

4.3 Barbecues

Residence Halls

Personal barbecues are not permitted in the Residence Halls. Barbecuing on patios, balconies, entry areas, or any location other than the designated areas is strictly prohibited. Barbecues are provided at the Shasta/Lassen community for resident use. Charcoal chimneys may be provided by the Residence Hall Council. Lighter fluid is prohibited.

University Village

Personal barbecues are not permitted at University Village. Barbecuing on patios, balconies, entry areas, or any location other than the designated areas is strictly prohibited. The University has provided four (4) natural gas barbecues available for resident use, two are located by the south pool and two are located next to the programming building. Storage of flammables, which includes lighter fluid, is prohibited at University Village. Violators of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. Barbecuing is a privilege, and you must follow the safety rules and regulations. You will take full responsibility for any damage to your belongings and University property.

4.4 Extension Cords

Residence Halls

Power strips with surge protectors that have a built-in fuse are the only extension cords allowed in University Housing. Extension cords cannot be plugged into each other; purchase one cord that is long enough for your purposes.

4.5 Fire Safety

All Buildings

The Fire Marshal has indicated that motorcycles, mopeds, motorbikes, and electric scooters are not allowed anywhere in the Residence Halls. Bicycles are not to be left in hallways, public areas, or other places that are used as exits for emergencies. Smoke detectors are provided in each room. Failure to report damage to, or tampering with, smoke detectors will result in a $50 charge plus materials. Previous fires in student rooms have been attributed to burning candles and incense. Therefore, in the interest of safety, candles and incense are not permitted anywhere within the halls or apartments – lit or unlit. Any hanging fabric must be treated with an California State Fire Marshal approved fire retardant, and you must have a certificate of fire proofing. No flammable material is allowed on room doors. According to the State Fire Marshal, excessive paper on doors and in corridors will raise the temperature of a fire and add to the rapid spread of a fire, adding danger to the path of evacuation. A small, approved message board may be used. Items may not be hung inside the door (beads, drapes, etc.) that impede entrance to or exit from the room.

4.6 Halogen and Other Lamps

All Buildings

Halogen lamps are prohibited in all University Housing and Food Service facilities due to extreme fire hazard. Another banned lamp is a pole or floor lamp whose style is generally to have five separate arms with colored, plastic, oblong shades at the ends. The plastic has been known to overheat and create a significant fire hazard. If these lamps are found in rooms, they should be reported to an RA or ARCC/RCC for removal. If they are discovered during a routine housing inspection, they will be written up by University Housing inspectors and must then be removed from the room and the Residence Hall entirely. Decorative lava lamps are permitted.

4.7 Smoking

All Buildings

Smoking of any kind is prohibited in all CSU, Chico, buildings (according to California law), including all Residence Halls, University Village, student rooms, lounges, recreation rooms, public areas, hallways, computer labs, stairways, balconies, patios, and walkways. There are designated and appropriate smoking areas in each residential community. Residents at University Village are encouraged to utilize benches provided around the property that have been specifically placed there for smoking. Smoking within 25 feet of any building entrance, or window or ground-level air intake is prohibited. Residents accept the responsibility of informing visitors or guests of the University non-smoking policies. Hookahs and burning incense is prohibited in and around all Chico State Residence Halls, University Village, and University grounds.

4.8 Tampering with Smoke Detectors

False alarms, damage, theft, or misuse of fire detection, alarm, or extinguishing equipment are punishable under the criminal law and may result in the loss of housing privileges and/or actions by Student Judicial Affairs. In addition, residents will be charged for fire damage resulting from neglect or intentional actions.

(California Administrative Code, Title 5, Section 41301, Standards for Student Conduct, California State University, Chico)

http://www.csuchico.edu/sjd/_assets/docs/policies/Title%20Five.pdf

5.0 What Stays Home

The following items are ***not permitted*** in University Housing. This is not a complete list, just a few common items seen.

Pets (except fish) Tanks must not exceed 5-gallons	Oil popcorn poppers
Hot Plates/electric skillets: Any cooking with an open heating element.	Electric space heaters
Nails, screws, other types of fastener hardware.	Air Conditioners
Vacuums (units are available at the front desk of each Hall)	Toaster Ovens
"George Foreman" grills and their clones	Halogen Lamps
Refrigerators larger than 4.4 cubic feet	Microwaves
Candles/incense/potpourri burners	Water Beds
Contact paper or wall paper	Dartboards
Alcohol or alcohol related decorations	Extension Cords
Electric blankets	Sun Lamps
Weapons of any type	Outlet adapters
Percolator	Fireworks

Possession of these items is a violation of University Housing policy. Residents who are in violation will be subject to the Campus Policies and Code of Student Conduct.

Use this simple rule of thumb: leave at home if any item presents:

a. a safety hazard
b. an annoyance to others, or
c. a probability of damaging your room or furniture

6.0 Education, Training, and Reporting

6.1 Fire Safety Training - Students

Fire safety training for Resident Advisors (RA's), Resident Community Coordinators (RCC's), and students, starts before they reach campus and is ongoing throughout the year. When future students sign-up for on-campus housing they receive a packet in the mail before the academic year begins. Included with the packet is a 15-minute CD titled "*Transitions"* that covers many important fire/life safety rules and policies. The program outlines (to name a few) the importance of not altering or tampering with smoke detectors, the importance and technique of quick evacuation, and also goes over how to properly use a fire extinguisher in the event of a small fire. The students also receive other literature that outlines policies and procedures.

6.2 Fire Safety Training – Professional Staff

Every year all the RA's and RCC's attend a two to three hour fire and life safety training class. This training is presented by the Department of Environment Health and Safety at California State University, Chico, who holds the responsibility for the oversight of the fire/life safety compliance for the Residence Halls. Special building related concerns are discussed in this forum and then those topics are passed to the building occupants through floor/section meetings that are held on regular intervals. If an event takes place in one of the Residence Halls where the fire alarm was activated, each RA or RCC discusses the incident with their group of students to use as a learning opportunity to prevent a repeat of that event.

6.3 Reporting Fires and Incidents

Any student, faculty, or staff member may report a fire incident in a Residence Hall to any one of the following:

- University Police Department 911
- Resident Advisors or Coordinators. 898-6325
- Environmental Health & Safety. 898-5126

7.0 Future Improvements

University Housing and Food Service (UHFS) at California State University, Chico, is committed to the overall safety of the students in the on-campus residence halls.

University Housing and Food Service is diligent and pro-active and ensures that all fire and life safety systems in place are in proper working order; each system is inspected and tested at regular intervals.

As fire and life safety technology improves, UHFS assures that all life and fire safety systems are updated as soon as feasible. Upgrades to any of the life and fire systems are both approved and inspected by the California State Fire Marshal's Office.

8.0 Fire Incident Documents

2011 Fire Statistics for On-Campus Student Housing Facilities

Location	Date	Cause	Injuries	Deaths	Property Damage
Lassen Hall	5-16-11	Arson	None	None	$1.00
Mechoopda Hall	11-13-11	Cooking: (burnt wax paper)	None	None	$1.00

2010 Fire Statistics for On-Campus Student Housing Facilities

Location	Date	Cause	Injuries	Deaths	Property Damage
Sutter Hall	9-19-10	Arson	None	None	$1.00

2009 Fire Statistics for On-Campus Student Housing Facilities

Location	Cause	Injuries	Deaths	Property Damage
No Reportable Fire Incidents for 2009				