

FIRE SAFETY REPORT

Vermillion Fire Department

The Vermillion Volunteer Fire Department provides services to Vermillion, the University of South Dakota, and area residents for the protection of life and property from fire and natural disasters. They maintain a standard of training which encompasses both a prompt response to emergencies and the safety of citizens. Volunteer firefighters promote community safety through public education and fire safety programs.

Fire Safety System

The University of South Dakota residence halls are protected by fire alarm and smoke detection systems which are monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week by the University Police Department.

Fire Safety Training

Fire safety is a shared campus concern. Students are aware of the location of fire safety equipment. Fire evacuation plans and instruction are posted in the residence halls (posted in each residential unit) and copies may be obtained through Student Life.

Residence Hall staff is trained in both fire and medical emergencies. Training incorporates hands-on practical use of fire extinguishers with live fire exercises under the direction of the Vermillion Fire Chief.

Fire drills are also conducted to ensure students understand emergency building evacuation procedures. Students must evacuate the building whenever an alarm sounds. If it is safe to do so, staff may enter rooms to ensure residents have evacuated the building. Students who ignore evacuation instruction may be subject to conduct proceedings.

Tampering with emergency equipment such as fire extinguishers, fire alarms, or emergency exit signs is prohibited by state law and the University Code of Conduct.

Fire Safety at the University of South Dakota

The majority of campus Community Living Policy addresses matters of health and safety. Accordingly, several pertain to fire safety and the hazards frequently associated with fires.

Appliances

The capacity of the residence hall electrical system is limited. Overloading these systems can present fire and safety hazards. Use of multiple head plugs to obtain a greater number of outlets is prohibited. Students must use only UL approved power strips which contain their own fuse if they want to increase the number of outlets. Power strips must be plugged

directly in the wall outlet; they may not be plugged into other power strips. If extension cords are necessary, the following guidelines are recommended:

1. The cord must be designed for the type of item with which it will be used.
2. Extension cords should be of "heavy-duty" construction.
3. Extension cords may not run under carpets, hang from ceilings or between bedsprings and frames.
4. Only one "large-wattage" item should be plugged into an extension cord; for example, you can't plug your fridge and microwave into the same extension cord.

The following appliances **ARE PERMITTED** in university residence hall lounges and kitchen areas (but **NOT** in individual rooms or hallways):

1. Toaster Ovens
2. Electric Grills (e.g., George Foreman)
3. Presto Pizzazz Pizza Ovens
4. Waffle irons/pancake makers

The following appliances **ARE PERMITTED** in residence hall rooms:

1. Hair dryers
2. Curling irons/hot rollers
3. Irons
4. Radios
5. Stereos
6. Desk lamps
7. Lava lamps
8. Televisions
9. Toasters (not toaster ovens)
10. Other small appliances
11. Cooking equipment: The only cooking equipment permitted in students' rooms includes microwaves, crock pots, popcorn poppers and coffee pots of solid state construction with thermostats and automatic shut-offs.
12. Refrigerators and Microwaves: Only **one (1) refrigerator per room is permitted**, with the following guidelines: it must not exceed 3.8 cubic feet or 1.5 amps, and it must be personally owned. One (1) microwave oven not to exceed 700 watts is permitted per student room. Microwaves and refrigerators must be plugged either directly into the wall or into a UL approved three-prong grounded power strip containing its own fuse.

The following items **ARE NOT** permitted in university residence hall rooms:

1. Open element appliances, i.e., hot plates, broilers, space heaters, ovens, kerosene heaters, or electric skillets/fry pans
2. Outside antennae (satellite dishes)
3. Potpourri pots (candles and electric)
4. Hot pots
5. Candle warmers
6. Halogen Lamps
7. Neon signs (halogen-based)
8. Stand-alone freezers/deep freezes

Candles/Potpourri

Use/possession of any type of candles and burning/simmering of potpourri and incense are not permitted in student rooms. These items will be confiscated and the student referred to hall staff for follow up. The items will not be returned until the resolution of the incident. Student Life encourages the use of alternatives to candles and potpourri, such as Glade Plug-Ins or wall flowers. Glade Plug-ins that contain an outlet in them are not allowed. If a student wishes to use candles for any sort of religious ceremony, he/she should refer to the "Exemption from Policy" section under "Incense" in this document.

Carpet

Carpet with foam backing or padding and running electrical cords under carpet poses possible fire hazards and is therefore not allowed. Students may run only cable TV, Ethernet and phone cords under carpet.

Ceiling Tiles

Ceiling tiles serve as a smoke and heat barrier, and may not be moved or removed. Personal items may not be stored above or attached to the ceiling or the metal ceiling grid that holds the ceiling tiles.

Door Decorations

Room doors may not have any signs, decoration, or dry erase boards on the outside of the door.

Floors may request permission to temporarily decorate for specific events (Dakota Days, Halloween, etc) through the CA. If such requests are approved, decorations on the outside of doors cannot cover more than a 2 (two) foot by 2 (two) foot section of the door. It is also recommended that decorations be fire retardant.

Explosives

All types of explosives, including fireworks, gasoline, ammunition, and other combustible materials, are prohibited

in the residence halls. Possession of any of these is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Fire Exits

It is permissible to use fire exits during fire alarms, only. Students who violate this policy may be subject to conduct proceedings and/or penalty.

Halogen Lights

Due to the increased number of fires started by halogen light bulbs on university campuses throughout the nation, they are not permitted in the residence halls at USD. This includes neon lights that are halogen-based. Student Life encourages residents to find alternative ways to supplement the light their room.

Heat Sensors/Smoke Detectors/Sprinkler

All rooms have heat sensors, smoke detectors, and/or sprinklers connected to the building fire alarm system. Extreme care should be taken not to bump the heat sensor or sprinkler, thus setting off the fire alarm and necessitating the evacuation of the building. Activating the heat sensor, smoke detector, or sprinkler without due cause is a Code of Conduct violation and may result in judicial action including restitution for damage incurred from sprinkler activation. Do not hang anything from or place anything over the heat sensor/smoke detector/sprinkler.

Holiday Decorations/Lights

Live trees are not permitted in student rooms or floor lounges for fire safety reasons. Holiday lights must be UL approved, and should only be plugged in when residents are present. Remember that extension/electrical cords may not run under carpets, hang from ceilings or be placed between bed springs and bed frames.

Incense

Residents are not allowed to possess or burn any substance in the residence halls due to fire safety issues.

EXEMPTION FROM POLICY: Any student who wishes to burn a substance for religious purposes must complete and submit a Request for Exemption from Residence Hall Policy. This form can be obtained at the front desks of the complexes. The student must meet with the Hall Director and an appropriate religious advisor before burning any substance. Upon completion of the meetings, the advisor will make a recommendation on whether the request should be approved or denied.

Safety Inspections

The university may routinely inspect rooms to insure that the preceding safety standards are being followed. Generally, twenty-four (24) hours notice will be given prior to inspections. Residence hall rooms will be inspected during all closing times

(Thanksgiving, Semester Break and Spring Break) and as needed for building monitoring during breaks.

Smoke Free Environment

At USD, smoking is not allowed:

- In any building or on campus property

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA RESIDENCE FACILITIES

Residential Hall	Full Sprinkler System	Partial Sprinkler System	Fire Alarm System	Smoke Detection	Fire Extinguisher Devices	Evacuation Plans/Placards	Number of Fire Drills per year
Beede		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
Mickelson		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
Richardson		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
Olson		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
Burgess	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
Norton	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
Coyote Village	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
Brookman	No		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2
McFadden	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2



FIRE LOGS

Fire logs are chronological lists of fires occurring in USD Residence Halls during a calendar year.

The logs list the Date, Time, Incident Number, General Location, Nature of Incident, Cause, Number of Deaths, Number of Injuries Requiring Treatment, and Dollar loss.

DEFINITIONS

Fire: Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

Cause of Fire: The factor or factors that give rise to a fire. The casual factors may be but is not limited to the result of intentional or unintentional action, mechanical failure or act of nature.

Fire Related Injury: Any instance in which a person is injured as a result of a fire, including any injury sustained from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from dangers of the fire. The term person may include students, employees, visitors, firefighters, or any other individuals.

Fire Related Death: Any instance in which a person is killed as a result of a fire, including death resulting from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue or escaping from dangers of fire. Dies within one year of injuries sustained as a result of the fire.



FIRE LOG 2011

Residential Hall	Date Occurred	Time Occurred	Incident Number	Nature of Incident	Cause	Number of Deaths	Number of Injuries that Required Treatment	Dollar Loss
Beede Hall	No Occurrences in 2012		0	None	None	0	0	0
Mickelson			0	None	None	0	0	0
Richardson			0	None	None	0	0	0
Olson			0	None	None	0	0	0
Burgess			0	None	None	0	0	0
Norton			0	None	None	0	0	0
Julian Addition			0	None	None	0	0	0
Brookman			0	None	None	0	0	0
McFadden			0	None	None	0	0	0
Cypress			0	None	None	0	0	0
Redwood			0	None	None	0	0	0
Coyote Village			0	None	None	0	0	0

Copies of the Fire Log may be obtained by contacting the University Police Department.

Cause: listed in accord with the National Fire Incident Reporting System

Nature of Incident: listed in accord with the Nation Fire Incident Reporting System