

Ithaca College
Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S)



Student Fire Safety Programs
Available through EH&S

Emergency Evacuation Planning

Explains the proper methods to use when an emergency situation arises in your residence hall or academic building. Topics covered in detail are what to do if trapped in a fire situation, how to safely escape a dangerous situation, and how to avoid becoming involved in a fire situation. Covers safety equipment present in Ithaca College buildings.

Proper Fire Extinguisher Usage

Involves detailed information on how to properly use fire extinguishers located throughout Ithaca College buildings. Covers the different classes of fires, how to identify them, and how to safely and properly extinguish incipient fires with fire extinguishers. Actual hands-on training with fire extinguishers will be conducted. Demonstrates how to operate an extinguisher before you have to use one.

Fire Behavior

Discusses how a fire grows and what can be done to avoid a fire situation. Covers fire stages, the dangerous products of combustion, and demonstrates how rapidly a fire can grow out of control. Demonstrates how quickly a dangerous and deadly fire condition can develop.

Self-Assessment for Fire Safety

Explains how to do a self-assessment of your living area and building for potential fire hazards. Teaches how to be proactive in fire prevention in order to avoid a potential fire situation.

Maliciously Activated Fire Alarms

Malicious fire alarms are a problem experienced by all colleges and universities. What many people do not know is that malicious alarms are dangerous to everyone and create an equally dangerous mindset to building occupants when a residence hall becomes plagued with false alarms. This program covers the dangers involved, case histories such as the deadly fire at Seton Hall, the importance of not succumbing to the “crying wolf syndrome,” and also what students can do to minimize or eliminate these dangerous situations.

Unapproved Appliances and Open Flames

Covers the electrical appliances and devices and furniture that are prohibited in Ithaca College residence halls, and the reasons why. The course also covers the dangers involved with these appliances and a look at fires caused by them on the Ithaca College campus and throughout the country.

Current Events and Case Studies

This program examines current events in campus fire safety locally and nationally. It focuses on the scenario surrounding the incident(s) and any preventive action that could have been taken. It also covers certain fire incidents that have occurred to bring forth vital information to students to prevent future occurrences at Ithaca College.

Alcohol Use and Fire Hazards

Most college-related fire fatalities occur when alcohol use or abuse is involved. The younger adult population (ages 15-34) incurs the greatest number of alcohol-impaired fire casualties. People who use and abuse alcohol are a growing “high-risk” fire group. We look into past fatal college fires that involved alcohol use or abuse and examine how careless and reckless behavior associated with alcohol abuse can quickly become deadly.

Living off Campus: A Greater Fire Risk?

This program will provide possible life-saving tips for students who live off campus or are thinking about moving off campus. It will cover the important questions students should ask *prior* to signing a rental agreement, fire safety measures that you should take in your off-campus housing, and whom to contact if you have any fire-related concerns in your off-campus home. Also looks at recent and past fire incidents involving off-campus housing that occurred in the United States.

Introduction to Campus Fire Safety

This program is broad-based and briefly covers topics such as fire behavior, common causes of residential hall fires, emergency evacuation, malicious false alarms, alcohol usage relative to fire incidences, and the dangers of candles, incense, and smoking materials.

Fire Suppression and Detection Systems

An overview of the different types of automatic fire suppression and detection systems installed in campus residence halls, with specific discussion of those installed in the residence hall in which the safety program is being provided. Basic information is provided to teach students about how the systems work and the dangers of tampering with, or damaging, their devices.

Selected programs include videos and group activities

All programs are approximately one hour.

To schedule a fire safety program, contact

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