

# University of Massachusetts Amherst

**Campus Fire Safety Right-to-Know**  
Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008

**2021**  
**Annual Fire Safety Report**

Prepared By  
Department of Environmental Health and Safety



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## Introduction

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (Public Law 110-315) (HEOA) was enacted on August 14, 2008, and reauthorizes the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA).

Provisions of the Act require colleges and universities to report fire safety information to the U.S. Department of Education and to make Annual Fire Safety Reports available to the public and the campus community.

These reports must include the following for each on-campus student housing facility:

- The number of fires and the cause of each fire.
- The number of injuries related to the fire that resulted in treatment at a medical facility
- The number of deaths related to a fire.
- The value of property damage caused by a fire.

The reports shall also include:

- Descriptions of fire protection equipment (fire alarms/sprinklers) in each on-campus housing facility
- The number of regular mandatory, supervised fire drills; policies or rules on portable electrical appliances; smoking, open flames (such as candles), procedures for evacuation; policies regarding fire safety education and training programs provided to students, faculty, and staff; and plans for future improvements in fire safety.

This University of Massachusetts Amherst Annual Fire Safety Report provides information regarding on-campus student housing fire related incidents over the past three years and identifies the buildings and locations where fires have occurred. University of Massachusetts Amherst Code of Student Conduct and Residential Life policies related to fire safety are cited in this report with links directly to the respective web sites where additional details can be found. Provided in the report are descriptions of each residence hall's fire safety system.

Our report is published separately from the University of Massachusetts Amherst Annual Security Report which is published by the UMass Amherst Police Department and is available through their website at: <https://www.umass.edu/umpd/annual-security-report>.

This report is available through the Department of Environmental Health and Safety website at: <https://ehs.umass.edu/campus-fire-safety-right-know-report-2021>

## Fire Log

As required, Environmental Health and Safety maintains a Fire Log which provides up-to-date information on fire incidents occurring in any on-campus student housing facility.

This log may be viewed at: <http://www.ehs.umass.edu/residential-fire-log>, or by stopping by the main office of Environmental Health and Safety, 117 Draper Hall from 8:30 AM– 5 PM Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. The information in the Fire Log includes information about fires that occur in residential facilities, including the nature, date, time, and general location.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting the Department of Environmental Health and Safety at: 413-545-2682, or by emailing Maryanne Steele at: [msteele@ehs.umass.edu](mailto:msteele@ehs.umass.edu). Please visit us online at: <http://www.ehs.umass.edu/>.

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST  
2021 RESIDENTIAL FIRE INCIDENTS**

A fire incident is defined as any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

<b>Residential Facilities</b>	<b>Total Number of Fires in Each Building</b>	<b>Fire #</b>	<b>Cause of Fire</b>	<b>Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility</b>	<b>Number of Deaths Related to a Fire</b>	<b>Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire (USD)</b>
<b>Baker Hall 160 Clark Hill Rd.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Birch 153 Commonwealth Ave.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Brett Hall 151 Infirmary Way</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Brooks Hall 160 Infirmary Way</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Brown Hall 92 Eastman Lane</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Butterfield Hall 171 Clark Hill Rd.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Cance Hall 191 Fearing St.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Cashin Hall 112 Eastman Lane</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Chadbourne Hall 110 Orchard Hill Dr.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Coolidge Hall 630 Massachusetts Ave.</b>	1	1	Unattended cooking, oil caught fire resulting in damage to the kitchen fan and cabinets	0	0	\$2,336
<b>Crabtree Hall 17 Eastman Lane</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Crampton Hall 256 Sunset Ave.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Dickinson Hall 151 Orchard Hill Dr.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Dwight Hall 41 Eastman Lane</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Elm Hall 145 Commonwealth Ave.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Emerson Hall 151 Southwest Cir.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Field Hall 171 Orchard Hill Dr.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST  
2021 RESIDENTIAL FIRE INCIDENTS**

Residential Facilities	Total Number of Fires in Each Building	Fire #	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire (USD)
Gorman Hall 90 Butterfield Terr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Grayson Hall 161 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Greenough Hall 120 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hamlin Hall 739 N. Pleasant St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
James Hall 660 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
John Adams Hall 161 Fearing Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
John Quincy Adams Hall 171 Fearing St.	1	1	Paper posted on wall in restroom was burned.	0	0	\$0
Johnson Hall 380 Thatcher Rd.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kennedy Hall 620 Massachusetts Ave.	1	1	Fire in fire pump controller panel	0	0	\$48,292
Knowlton Hall 691 N. Pleasant St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Leach Hall 21 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lewis Hall 340 Thatcher Rd.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Linden Hall 141 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MacKimmie Hall 230 Sunset Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maple Hall 151 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mary Lyon Hall 43 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
McNamara Hall 102 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Melville Hall 650 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Moore Hall 111 Southwest Cir.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oak Hall 143 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Residential Facilities	Total Number of Fires in Each Building	Fire #	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire (USD)
Patterson Hall 204 Sunset Ave.	1	1	Several doors had paper name tags or advertisements that had been burned and burnt paper was found in the bathroom.	0	0	\$0
Pierpont Hall 201 Fearing St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Prince Hall 286 Sunset Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sycamore Hall 159 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thatcher Hall 151 Thatcher Road	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thoreau Hall 640 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Van Meter Hall 180 Clark Hill Rd.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Washington Hall 181 Fearing St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Webster Hall 141 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wheeler Hall 171 Infirmary Way	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



A fire incident is defined as any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

Residential Facilities	Total Number of Fires in Each Building	Fire #	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire (USD)
Baker Hall 160 Clark Hill Rd.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Birch 153 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Brett Hall 151 Infirmary Way	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Brooks Hall 160 Infirmary Way	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Brown Hall 92 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Butterfield Hall 171 Clark Hill Rd.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cance Hall 191 Fearing St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cashin Hall 112 Eastman Lane	1	1	Fire in wastebasket due to careless disposal of smoking material. Damage to trash in waste basket.	0	0	\$0
Chadbourne Hall 110 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coolidge Hall 630 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Crabtree Hall 17 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Crampton Hall 256 Sunset Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dickinson Hall 151 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dwight Hall 41 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Elm Hall 145 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emerson Hall 151 Southwest Cir.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Field Hall 171 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gorman Hall 90 Butterfield Terr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Residential Facilities	Total Number of Fires in Each Building	Fire #	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire (USD)
Grayson Hall 161 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Greenough Hall 120 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hamlin Hall 739 N. Pleasant St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
James Hall 660 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
John Adams Hall 161 Fearing Street	1	1	Fire in waste basket due to improper disposal of smoking material.	0	0	\$0
John Quincy Adams Hall 171 Fearing St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Johnson Hall 380 Thatcher Rd.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kennedy Hall 620 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Knowlton Hall 691 N. Pleasant St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Leach Hall 21 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lewis Hall 340 Thatcher Rd.	1	1	Apartment occupant left dish towel on stove top burner causing the towel to ignite. Damage to towel only.	0	0	\$5
Lincoln Apts. 345 Lincoln Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Linden Hall 141 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MacKimmie Hall 230 Sunset Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maple Hall 151 Commonwealth Ave.	1	1	Fire in Cubical Storage Unit of undetermined cause. Further investigation revealed hand held fan was dropped and damaged battery causing battery to overheat and ignite fan.	0	0	\$24,729
Mary Lyon Hall 43 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
McNamara Hall 102 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Residential Facilities	Total Number of Fires in Each Building	Fire #	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire (USD)
Melville Hall 650 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Moore Hall 111 Southwest Cir.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Apartment A 56 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Apartment B 58 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Apartment C 54 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Apartment D 52 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Village Apts. 990 North Pleasant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oak Hall 143 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Patterson Hall 204 Sunset Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pierpont Hall 201 Fearing St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Prince Hall 286 Sunset Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sycamore Hall 159 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thatcher Hall 151 Thatcher Road	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thoreau Hall 640 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Van Meter Hall 180 Clark Hill Rd.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Washington Hall 181 Fearing St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Webster Hall 141 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wheeler Hall 171 Infirmary Way	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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<b>Baker Hall 160 Clark Hill Rd.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Birch 153 Commonwealth Ave.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Brett Hall 151 Infirmary Way</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Brooks Hall 160 Infirmary Way</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Brown Hall 92 Eastman Lane</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Butterfield Hall 171 Clark Hill Rd.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Cance Hall 191 Fearing St.</b>	1	1	Burn mark on poster.	0	0	\$0
<b>Cashin Hall 112 Eastman Lane</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Chadbourne Hall 110 Orchard Hill Dr.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Coolidge Hall 630 Massachusetts Ave.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Crabtree Hall 17 Eastman Lane</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Crampton Hall 256 Sunset Ave.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Dickinson Hall 151 Orchard Hill Dr.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Dwight Hall 41 Eastman Lane</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Elm Hall 145 Commonwealth Ave.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Emerson Hall 151 Southwest Cir.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Field Hall 171 Orchard Hill Dr.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Gorman Hall 90 Butterfield Terr.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Grayson Hall 161 Orchard Hill Dr.</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Residential Facilities	Total Number of Fires in Each Building	Fire #	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire (USD)
Greenough Hall 120 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hamlin Hall 739 N. Pleasant St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
James Hall 660 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
John Adams Hall 161 Fearing Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
John Quincy Adams Hall 171 Fearing St.	1	1	Fire in waste and recycling basket and scorched bed frame due to improper disposal of smoking materials.	0	0	\$833
Johnson Hall 380 Thatcher Rd.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kennedy Hall 620 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Knowlton Hall 691 N. Pleasant St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Leach Hall 21 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lewis Hall 340 Thatcher Rd.	1	1	Overheated hot water pot. Student received 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree burn to hands.	1	0	\$0
Lincoln Apts. 345 Lincoln Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Linden Hall 141 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MacKimmie Hall 230 Sunset Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maple Hall 151 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mary Lyon Hall 43 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
McNamara Hall 102 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Melville Hall 650 Massachusetts Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Moore Hall 111 Southwest Cir.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Residential Facilities	Total Number of Fires in Each Building	Fire #	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire (USD)
North Apartment A 56 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Apartment B 58 Eastman Lane	1	1	Scorched floor tile due to cooking fire. Student placed pan on floor tile.	0	0	\$87
North Apartment C 54 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Apartment D 52 Eastman Lane	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Village Apts. 990 North Pleasant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oak Hall 143 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Patterson Hall 204 Sunset Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pierpont Hall 201 Fearing St.	1	1	Burned book found in men's shower room. Fire had been extinguished prior to discovery.	0	0	\$15
Prince Hall 286 Sunset Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sycamore Hall 159 Commonwealth Ave.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thatcher Hall 151 Thatcher Road	1	1	Burn mark on paneling of booth in kitchenette area.	0	0	\$31
Thoreau Hall 640 Massachusetts Ave.	1	1	Fire in waste basket due to improper disposal of smoking materials.	0	0	\$15
Van Meter Hall 180 Clark Hill Rd.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Washington Hall 181 Fearing St.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Webster Hall 141 Orchard Hill Dr.	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wheeler Hall 171 Infirmary Way	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## Fire Safety Policies, Procedures and Guidelines

### *Fire Safety Policies*

#### **Code of Student Conduct**

The University of Massachusetts Amherst is a scholarly community united by its engagement in the exchange of ideas and the advancement of knowledge. By establishing expectations for the community, the [Code of Student Conduct](#) (Code) serves as an integral part of the University's educational mission. The processes set forth in the Code involve reflecting on decisions and improving decision-making skills.

The Code describes principles for living and acting responsibly in a community setting, with respect for the rights of all members of that community, and for their property, common resources, and values.

The purpose of the Code is to reinforce and encourage the development of good decision-making as well as personal and group integrity and to teach these skills where lacking.

The Code provides opportunities for restorative responses and educational outcome. These responses and outcomes are intended to meet the needs of those impacted and to facilitate active accountability in order to maintain a campus environment of dignity and respect in which students understand the impact their actions have on the campus community.

It is the University's goal that, students engaged in the conduct process, will leave that process as better-educated students, better members of the University community, and better global citizens.

Jurisdiction and Authority for overseeing the student conduct process, and enforcement of the Code lies with the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and Campus Life, or designee.

Fire Safety Violations are one instance of behavior or allegations of behavior that could result in expulsion, suspension, housing removal or deferred suspension or housing removal. Such cases will be handled primarily by the Student Conduct and Community Standards Office using the procedures outlined in the Code.

Falsely reporting a fire, and Fire Safety/Hazard Creation are considered behaviors that violate the Campus Safety section of the Code. Fire Safety/Hazard Creation includes: the willful and/or reckless creation of a fire hazard or fire, failing to evacuate after a fire alarm has sounded or other notice has been given, and/or tampering with, damaging, or misusing any fire safety equipment. This includes, but is not limited to fire alarms, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, emergency exit systems, and/or fire alarm/sprinkler systems.

Smoking and tobacco use are prohibited in the [UMass Tobacco-Free Policy](#). Violations of this policy are considered behaviors that violate the Disruptive Conduct section of the Code.

The Student Conduct & Community Standards Office may require that a student attend a Disciplinary Fire Safety Training provided by the UMass Fire Prevention Program for violations involving a Fire Safety/Hazard Creation.

## Residence Hall Policies

Each resident must take an active role in maintaining a living environment to create a positive learning community. Residents and their guests are expected to be mindful of how their behavior affects other members of their community and to avoid behavior that prevents others from participating in a safe and respectful community living experience. Violation of [Residence Hall Policies](#) is considered a violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

## FIRE SAFETY

All residence halls and apartment complexes are equipped with fire safety equipment, which includes smoke detectors, heat detectors, manual fire alarm pull stations, fire alarm control panels, sprinklers, and pipes. Residents are responsible for complying with the fire safety policies outlined in the [Code of Student Conduct](#) and are prohibited from covering, obstructing, or hanging items on any fire safety device or component. Tampering with the fire alarm system or failing to evacuate when a fire alarm has sounded is prohibited.

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

To maintain the safety of the residence halls, certain items are not permitted in the residence halls. Prohibited items include, but are not limited to:

- 3D printers
- Air conditioners (window or standing units)
- Candles and incense, lit or unlit. Smudging is also not permitted in the residence halls. Residents may request permission to smudge and/or the use of candles or incense in the residence halls for religious or spiritual purposes. Residents should contact Residential Life at [living@umass.edu](mailto:living@umass.edu) to initiate the process.
- Deep/air fryers, open-flame appliances, heating elements, toaster ovens, grills, and hot plates. Residents may have a microwave up to 700 watts and 0.7 cubic ft. and a small refrigerator 3.0 cubic ft. or less with a ground adapter plug. Allowable appliances must have automatic shut off.
- Explosive materials, gas-powered equipment, noxious chemicals, gasoline, and other flammable liquids
- Halogen lamps, lava lamps, octopus/spider lamps (i.e., lamps with multiple plastic shades/covers)
- Humidifiers units that connect to windows
- Laser pointers
- Natural trees, wreaths, corn stalks, hay, or other live decorations
- Pyrotechnic devices and smoke/fog machines
- Self-propelled devices (e.g. battery operated devices, electric or motorized bicycles, hover boards, scooters, segway vehicles and skateboards)
- Space heaters (unless issued by Residential Life)
- Water sport items (such as water slides), pools (including inflatable and/or plastic pools), water beds



- Weapons (as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct)

At certain times during the year, the University may prohibit additional items from the residence halls. Residents will be notified of any prohibited items in advance.

## ROOM DECORATING

Residents may decorate and personalize their rooms but are responsible for adhering to the following:

- Personal belongings must not be stored outside of the room, suite, or apartment.
- Painting and permanent additions and alterations of the interior and exterior of rooms, apartments, and suites is prohibited.
- Decorations must not cover more than 50% of the area on each wall and room door.
- Decorations must be fire/flame-proof or fire-resistant.
- Items must not be suspended from the ceiling, light fixtures, pipes, sprinkler head, or fire equipment.
- Tapestries, pictures, posters, and other decorations may be hung on the walls and doors with removable adhesive strips, tacks or small nails. Avoid using large nails, screws, and tape (e.g., scotch, masking, or duct) as they may damage walls. Nothing may be mounted to the walls, floors, or ceilings. Applying wallpaper, contact paper, borders, stickers, adhesives, painting and/or drawing on walls, doors, windows, shades, or furnishings, and any university owned surfaced is not permitted.
- Students in Southwest residence hall rooms may use metal tracks on the wall for hanging lightweight items (such as small bulletin boards). Students in the Commonwealth Honors College Residential Community and North Apartments should only use push pins to hang items on the walls (using rubber cement, hanging putty, and/or mounting strips will damage the walls).
- Furnishings and personal items must not block heating units or entry to and from the room, suite, or apartment.
- Applying wallpaper, borders, stickers, and/or painting or drawing on walls, doors, windows, shades, or furnishings is not permitted.
- Furnishings and personal items must not block entry to and from the room, suite, or apartment.
- Decorative lights may be used if they are UL-approved. Lights should remain unplugged when not in use and during break periods.
- Residents are required to pay for any repair costs associated with damage to walls, doors, and/or appliances.

## ***Fire Safety Procedures***

Our residence halls contain a large number of students living in close proximity. Residents play an important role in preventing fires and responding appropriately to emergencies. Whenever you move to a new area, you should locate the fire alarm pull stations and the two exits nearest your room.

**If you discover a fire:**

- Close the door to the fire area (if possible).
- Activate the building fire alarm system.
- Evacuate and Call: 911 or 413-545-3111(from a cell phone), report the exact fire location.
- Stay clear of the building, go to Emergency Assembly Area outside of the building and await further instructions.
- Use a portable fire extinguisher if: the fire is small, you can use it safely, you have been trained, and only after the building fire alarm system has been activated.

**If you are in a fire area:**

- Stay as calm as you can.
- Feel closed doors from top to bottom for heat, using the back of your hand.
- Crouch low and open the door slowly.
- If safe, go into the hallway and close the door behind you. Leave the door unlocked so firefighters do not have to break down doors to search for trapped residents.
- Activate the building fire alarm system.
- Let others know they must evacuate the building.
- Go to the nearest stairway and leave the building in a prompt and orderly manner. If the stairway is full of smoke, go to another stairway.
- Stay clear of the building, go to Emergency Assembly Area outside of the building and await further instructions.

**If you are trapped by a fire:**

- Do not panic.
- Pack the space under the door with wet towels, clothing, or other material.
- Dial 911 or 413-545-3111(from a cell phone), and report your location.
- Go to a window, open it, wave a white or brightly colored cloth from it, and call to any people below.
- Do not break windows unless smoke is pouring into your room and you need fresh air to breathe.
- Stay near the window where you can be seen. Do not hide under the bed or in the closet.
- If you cannot get to a window, go to an inside corner of the room, curl up on the floor, and protect your face with a wet cloth. Stay calm, breathe slowly, and call out for help when you hear rescue personnel in the hallway.

***Fire Safety Guidelines***

**COOKING**

- Never leave cooking food unattended.
- Keep the stove area free of combustible objects such as dishtowels, potholders, decorations or boxes.
- Keep pan handles turned inwards so they are not accidentally bumped.

- Should a stovetop fire occur, use an ABC fire extinguisher, baking soda, or a lid to extinguish the fire. If the fire has spread beyond the stovetop, get out immediately and call 911 (or 413-545-3111 from a cell phone).
- Never use flour or water to extinguish a cooking fire. Flour is combustible and water can spread fire.
- A fire extinguisher is located in every residence hall/apartment kitchen. Do not relocate the fire extinguisher and only use it in the event of a fire. If the extinguisher is used to extinguish a kitchen fire, immediately notify the Residence Hall Staff or Residential Service Desk and it will be replaced. The University inspects fire extinguishers at least once a year, but you should periodically inspect the gauge to be certain the fire extinguisher is properly charged. If the needle indicates that it is undercharged or overcharged, call the Residential Service Desk for a replacement.

### EMERGENCY EXIT SYSTEMS

The emergency exit systems in the residence halls include emergency lighting, emergency exit signage, exit stairways, and approved exit door hardware. As a resident, you should acquaint yourself with all of the nearest exit routes from your living area. Please do not tamper with any of the emergency exit systems.

### EMERGENCY PLANS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities have unique abilities and limitations. To be effective, emergency plans must be designed to meet the needs of the individual. At the beginning of every semester, fire safety professionals from the Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S), will contact each identified disabled student to offer to meet to review fire safety, fire protection, special needs, and personal emergency action plans.

- If you are not on the ground floor, do not try to use an elevator.
- If the fire is on the floor where you are, you will have to leave the building by the stairs. Follow the plan EH&S has designed for your emergency evacuation.
- If the fire is not on your floor or you are trapped on the same floor as the fire, close the door to your room. Dial 911 (or 413-545-3111 on cellphone) and report your location in the building. Then, go to a window, open it, wave a cloth, and call out to any people below.
- Remain at the window until firefighters arrive

### FIRE SAFETY SYSTEMS

The floors of all campus buildings are equipped with manual fire alarm systems consisting of pull stations and horns. Most are also equipped with automatic fire alarm systems consisting of heat and smoke detectors. Residence halls also have automatic sprinkler systems. For your safety, never tamper with these systems. False fire alarms are dangerous to residents and emergency personnel who must respond. False fire alarms are illegal and punishable by fines and/or imprisonment.

Nothing shall be hung on or near any fire alarm system component. Fire alarm system components and detection devices include but are not limited to: smoke detectors (system or local), audio/visual devices, wiring or wire molding, heat

detectors, manual fire alarm pull stations and stopper cover alarms, fire alarm control panels, sprinklers and pipes.

#### **FIRE DRILLS**

Fire drills are conducted in every residence hall every semester to help you become familiar with evacuation procedures. During a fire drill, please do the following:

- Take your room key and ID, close and lock the door to your room, suite and/or apartment.
- Exit immediately to the nearest emergency exit; do not use or attempt to use an elevator.
- Meet in the designated Emergency Assembly Area outside of the building and await further instructions.

#### **FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**

Fire extinguishers are located on each floor in each campus building and in each apartment. Use a portable fire extinguisher only if you have been trained to do so. Irresponsible use of a fire extinguisher can create a dangerous situation for other residents and could result in damage to personal property. Misuse of a fire extinguisher will result in conduct action.

#### **SMOKE DETECTORS**

A smoke detector is mounted on the ceiling or wall in your room. Some buildings also have heat detectors on the ceilings. Take the following precautions to ensure the safe operation of your smoke detector:

- If your smoke detector is working properly, the red light should be on. If the red light is not blinking, contact residence hall staff immediately.
  - Do not cover or obstruct your smoke detector in any way.
  - Report any power outages that occur to your hall staff.
- If a smoke detector activates and there is no fire or smoke, notify your hall staff.

## Fire Safety Services

The University of Massachusetts Amherst employs a full-time staff of fire prevention professionals within the Department of Environmental Health and Safety. Fire prevention staff inspect all campus buildings, test and maintain sprinkler systems, standpipes, fire pumps, fire alarms, and fire extinguishers. They also provide educational programs on fire safety in the residence halls. For more information on fire safety training, please go to the [Environmental Health and Safety Training webpage](#).

The Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) is the agency responsible for establishing, implementing, and monitoring University policies and procedures related to fire safety, life safety, lab safety, environmental health, and related matters. Contact EH&S at: 413-545-2682, if you have concerns about safety in your residence hall, the reliability of an electrical appliance, or the habitability of your room.

### FIRE EVACUATION DRILLS

EH&S coordinates with Residential Life Staff to conduct fire drills within each residence hall once each semester (2 per year). In 2020, sixty-two fire drills were conducted with the University fully occupied prior to going to fully remote learning due to COVID-19 in March of 2020. During the fall 2020 and spring 2021 semesters, Residential Halls were minimally occupied due to COVID-19 as the university employed fully remote learning adding limited in person classes in the spring for required laboratories, studios, and practicum no drills occurred. Drills were not conducted at this time. Drills were reinstated in Fall of 2021 with the return to full in person learning. The purpose of these drills is to assure that all residents know the sound of the fire alarm, available exit routes and that prompt evacuation is expected. These unannounced drills are timed and monitored by EH&S to evaluate effectiveness. Observed problems or unusual conditions are reported to staff for follow-up. Residence Hall staff is present and assists with fire safety messages that are presented to residents at the conclusion of each drill.

### LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

EH&S perform the following life safety inspections for all residential halls:

***Residential Hall Inspections:*** includes inspections of common areas and mechanical spaces once per semester. Inspections are conducted by Fire Safety Officers. Any recommendations for corrective action are made, followed to completion follow-up, with secondary inspections, as necessary. Particular attention is given to maintenance of exit ways, exit lighting, emergency lighting, fire doors, fire alarms, sprinkler systems, and portable fire extinguishers.

***Individual Room Safety Inspections:*** A safety inspection of each residence hall room is conducted by Residential Life staff each January. EH&S staff follow up on fire safety violations found during these inspections. Residents and residence hall staff are notified of fire safety violations confirmed by EH&S. These may include the presence of candles, halogen lamps, flammable liquids, blocked smoke detectors and

other unsafe conditions. Residents with violations are contacted, their rooms are re-inspected and fire safety issues are reviewed.

**780 CMR Massachusetts State Building Code Certificate of Inspections:** EH&S serves to coordinate and assist the State Building Inspector with annual inspections of each residence hall requisite for issuance of an annual Department of Public Safety Certificate of Inspection for each hall.

#### FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS INSPECTION, TESTING, & MAINTENANCE

All residence hall fire protection equipment is inspected, tested and maintained through a coordinated program involving Physical Plant, EH&S, and outside contractors.



**Fire Alarm Systems:** Under contract, a system maintenance contractor provides annual fire alarm system testing per NFPA 72 in each residence hall. These tests include verification of system performance including audio-visual devices, backup batteries and manual pull stations.

**Fire Sprinkler Systems, Standpipe Systems, and Fire Pumps:** Quarterly water based fire protection systems are inspected and tested per NFPA 25 using an outside contractor. These tests include verification of water flow, fire pump capacity tests, testing of flow indicating devices and fire pump controllers. In addition, each of our ten fire pumps is run tested once a week to assure operability. Any identified deficiency or maintenance issue is followed-up with an appropriate service request. EH&S staff coordinates with and assists a sprinkler maintenance contractor when such service is necessary.

#### FIRE EXTINGUISHER SERVICE

All residence hall portable fire extinguishers are inspected, and serviced by an EH&S Fire Safety Officers with the assistance of fire extinguisher shop student staff. This includes annual programmed service, as well as repair, replacement, and charging as necessary and requested. Additionally, fire extinguishers are inspected once each semester during life safety inspections.

#### AGENCY LIAISON AND CODE ENFORCEMENT

EH&S Campus Fire Marshal provides plan review, project monitoring, and inspection services for various Residential Life projects. Serving as liaison to the State Building Inspector and local Fire Department Officials, the Campus Fire Marshal assists with the acceptance process and resolution of Building Code or Fire Prevention Regulation issues.



### FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION

Fire safety educational programs are provided to all Resident Advisors and Resident Directors by Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) Fire Prevention Staff. These programs include an overview of fire safety regulations, fire reporting, action items to be taken in event of fire, fire extinguisher use and fire protection systems. These programs are also provided to other Residential Life Staff and students upon request. Sometimes the Fire Prevention Staff is requested to provide educational programs dealing with specific issues such as covering smoke detectors. Fire Prevention staff also provide Disciplinary Fire Safety Training for students referred by the Student Conduct & Community Standards Office for violating Residential Life Fire Safety Policies.



### EMERGENCY SERVICE RESPONSE

EH&S staff are available Monday through Friday 7AM to 5 PM, with second shift coverage Tuesday through Thursday 3 PM to 11 PM to provide fire and fire alarm response. Physical Plant Watch Tour respond to Fire Alarm panel conditions when EH&S is not on site. During fire or fire alarm conditions, EH&S or Physical Plant Watch Tour staff will provide assistance responding to fire department units. This assistance will include providing incident information, building information, key access, residence hall staff interface and assistance to residents with disabilities. Should an incident require investigation and follow-up, EH&S staff will work closely with State, Amherst Fire, and UMPD officials.

**Fire Reporting Call 911 (413-545-3111 from a cell phone) to Report Smoke or Fire**

The University of Massachusetts Amherst is required to annually disclose statistical data on all fires that occur within on-campus student housing facilities.

**For extinguished fires or evidence of past fires call**

The UMass Police Department (UMPD) at 413-545-2121 or  
Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) at 413-545-2682

## Fire Protection Systems

All on-campus student housing facilities are equipped with fire alarm systems which include detection, alerting and notification features (see Fire Safety Table-1). In addition, all residence halls are equipped with automatic fire sprinklers (see Fire Safety Table-2).

## Future Fire Protection and Alarm Plans

The University of Massachusetts Amherst has aggressively implemented a fire protection upgrade plan for our residence halls. Fire alarm system upgrades have been made to improve design, take advantage of new technologies, and to continue to improve life safety for all occupants. One of our southwest towers has previously undergone improvements to fire protection and alarm systems, including the replacement of the fire pump and controller. Future plans include similar multi-year upgrades to fire alarm systems and fire protection systems for the remaining four southwest towers, as well as other upgrades in conjunction with renovation projects to residential halls.







Residential Areas	Stories	Voice or Horn Alerting	Corridor & Room Alerting	Unit Occupant Smoke Detection [i]	Unit Occupant Smoke Detection With Power Backup[ii]	Standby Power	Manual Pull Stations	Zoned Detection	Automatic UMPD Dispatch Notification
<b>NORTH RESIDENTIAL APARTMENTS</b>									
North Apartment A 56 Eastman Lane	5	Horn	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
North Apartment B 58 Eastman Lane	5	Horn	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
North Apartment C 54 Eastman Lane	5	Horn	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
North Apartment D 52 Eastman Lane	5	Horn	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>COMMONWEALTH HONORS COLLEGE RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY</b>									
Birch 153 Commonwealth Ave.	5	Voice	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Elm Hall 145 Commonwealth Ave	9	Voice	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Linden Hall 141 Commonwealth Ave.	5	Voice	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maple Hall 151 Commonwealth Ave.	5	Voice	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Oak Hall 143 Commonwealth Ave.	6	Voice	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sycamore Hall 159 Commonwealth Ave.	8	Voice	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

[i] Unit occupant smoke detection includes single and multiple station smoke detectors within student rooms hardwired or with system smoke detectors similarly programmed.  
[ii] Unit occupant smoke detection with battery backup includes station smokes with integral battery or system smokes with secondary power.

**Fire Safety Table 2**  
**On-Campus Student Housing Facility Fire Safety**

<b>Residential Facilities</b>	<b>100% Automatic Sprinkler System</b>	<b>Portable Fire Extinguishers</b>	<b>Number of Fire Evacuation Drills Conducted Each Calendar Year*</b>
Baker Hall 160 Clark Hill Rd.	Yes	Yes	2
Birch 153 Commonwealth Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Brett Hall 151 Infirmary Way	Yes	Yes	2
Brooks Hall 160 Infirmary Way	Yes	Yes	2
Brown Hall 92 Eastman Lane	Yes	Yes	2
Butterfield Hall 171 Clark Hill Rd.	Yes	Yes	2
Cance Hall 191 Fearing Street	Yes	Yes	2
Cashin Hall 112 Eastman Lane	Yes	Yes	2
Chadbourne Hall 110 Orchard Hill Dr.	Yes	Yes	2
Coolidge Hall 630 Massachusetts Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Crabtree Hall 17 Eastman Lane	Yes	Yes	2
Crampton Hall 256 Sunset Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Dickinson Hall 151 Orchard Hill Dr.	Yes	Yes	2
Dwight Hall 41 Eastman Lane	Yes	Yes	2
Elm Hall 145 Commonwealth Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Emerson Hall 151 Southwest Cir.	Yes	Yes	2
Field Hall 171 Orchard Hill Dr.	Yes	Yes	2
Gorman Hall 90 Butterfield Terr.	Yes	Yes	2
Grayson Hall 161 Orchard Hill Dr.	Yes	Yes	2
Greenough Hall 120 Orchard Hill Dr.	Yes	Yes	2
Hamlin Hall 739 N. Pleasant St.	Yes	Yes	2
James Hall 660 Massachusetts Ave.	Yes	Yes	2

<b>Residential Facilities</b>	<b>100% Automatic Sprinkler System</b>	<b>Portable Fire Extinguishers</b>	<b>Number of Fire Evacuation Drills Conducted Each Calendar Year</b>
John Adams Hall 161 Fearing Street	Yes	Yes	2
John Quincy Adams Hall 171 Fearing St.	Yes	Yes	2
Johnson Hall 380 Thatcher Rd.	Yes	Yes	2
Kennedy Hall 620 Massachusetts Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Knowlton Hall 691 N. Pleasant St.	Yes	Yes	2
Leach Hall 21 Eastman Lane	Yes	Yes	2
Lewis Hall 340 Thatcher Rd.	Yes	Yes	2
Linden Hall 141 Commonwealth Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
MacKimmie Hall 230 Sunset Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Maple Hall 151 Commonwealth Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Mary Lyon Hall 43 Eastman Lane	Yes	Yes	2
McNamara Hall 102 Eastman Lane	Yes	Yes	2
Melville Hall 650 Mass. Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Moore Hall 111 Southwest Circle	Yes	Yes	2
North Apartment A 56 Eastman Lane	Yes	Yes	2
North Apartment B 58 Eastman Lane	Yes	Yes	2
North Apartment D 52 Eastman Lane	Yes	Yes	2
Oak Hall 143 Commonwealth Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Patterson Hall 204 Sunset Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Pierpont Hall 201 Fearing St.	Yes	Yes	2
Prince Hall 286 Sunset Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Sycamore Hall 159 Commonwealth Ave.	Yes	Yes	2
Thatcher Hall 151 Thatcher Rd.	Yes	Yes	2
Thoreau Hall 640 Massachusetts Ave.	Yes	Yes	2

<b>Residential Facilities</b>	<b>100% Automatic Sprinkler System</b>	<b>Portable Fire Extinguishers</b>	<b>Number of Fire Evacuation Drills Conducted Each Calendar Year*</b>
<b>Van Meter Hall 180 Clark Hill Rd.</b>	Yes	Yes	2
<b>Washington Hall 181 Fearing Street</b>	Yes	Yes	2
<b>Webster Hall 141 Orchard Hill Dr.</b>	Yes	Yes	2
<b>Wheeler Hall 171 Infirmary Way</b>	Yes	Yes	2

\* Generally fire evacuation drills are performed in residential halls twice each calendar year. Due to COVID-19, the university went to fully remote learning in March of 2020 and remained fully remoted through the spring semester of 2021 with some required laboratory, studio and practicum in person classes being added in spring of 2021. During this period, fire drills were not performed. The university returned to full in person learning in fall of 2021 and drills were done. One drill was performed for each residential hall during 2021 with the exception of the one residential hall that housed students that were in isolation.