



# **2008 ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT FOR STUDENT HOUSING**

A document produced by the University of Vermont in compliance with upcoming requirements of the Higher Education Opportunity Act

# 2008 FIRE SAFETY REPORT

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# INTRODUCTION

On August 14, 2008 the Higher Education Opportunity Act was signed into law. Under the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) institutions maintaining on-campus student housing facilities must publish an annual fire safety report containing information about campus fire safety practices and standards. Under the law the first of these reports is required to be published in October 2010, covering calendar year 2009. The University of Vermont is proud of its commitment to safety, including fire safety, and has elected to begin publishing this report in October 2009, covering calendar year 2008.

The University of Vermont has made a serious commitment to fire safety. UVM has a full-time Fire Marshal, in the Department of Risk Management, dedicated to fire safety for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. UVM works closely with the municipal fire department (Burlington Fire Department) and the Vermont Division of Fire Safety to meet or exceed applicable local and state code requirements.

All on-campus residence halls are equipped with complete automatic fire sprinkler systems, automatic fire and carbon monoxide alarm systems which notify occupants and initiate a fire department response, and portable fire extinguishers for use by trained persons. Cooking equipment, including kitchens designated for student use, are protected by automatic cooking fire suppression systems. All fire protection systems are inspected regularly by UVM staff. Inspection and maintenance on these systems is conducted at intervals required by code or more frequently.

Questions about fire safety should be directed to  
John Marcus, Certified Fire Protection Specialist, University Fire Marshal  
284 East Avenue  
Burlington, VT 05405  
(802)656-8249  
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## DESCRIPTIONS OF STUDENT HOUSING AND FIRE SAFETY SYSTEMS

Athletic Campus, Burlington Vermont

Harris Millis Complex, 67 Spear Street



157,007 square foot brick over concrete 530 bed residence hall and dining complex. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, portable fire extinguishers, commercial and residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Living Learning Complex, 633 Main Street



231,111 square foot brick over concrete block 535 bed residence hall, classroom, office, and dining complex. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, portable fire extinguishers, commercial and residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Marsh Austin Tupper Complex, 31 Spear Street



100,840 square foot brick over concrete block 391 bed residence hall and office complex. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, portable fire extinguishers, commercial and residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

University Heights North and South Complex, 30, 50, 70, 90 University Heights



266,322 square foot masonry with metal studding 756 bed residence hall and office complex. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, fire pump, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Main Campus, Burlington Vermont

Chittenden Buckham Wills Complex, 71, 73, 79 Colchester Avenue



70,724 square foot brick over concrete block 373 bed residence hall complex. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, fire pump, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Converse Hall, 75 Colchester Avenue



40,222 square foot stone and wood 148 bed residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, fire pump, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

Redstone Campus, Burlington Vermont

Christie Wright Patterson Complex, 436 South Prospect Street



131,796 square foot brick over concrete block 391 bed residence hall complex. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Coolidge Hall, 402 South Prospect Street



26,280 square foot brick over concrete 135 bed residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Mason Simpson Hamilton Complex, 438 South Prospect Street



116,517 square foot brick over concrete 390 bed residence hall and dining complex. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, portable fire extinguishers, commercial and residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

Redstone Hall, 376 South Prospect Street



14,512 square foot stone 27 bed residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Slade Hall, 420 South Prospect Street



7,800 square foot 24 bed brick residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Wing Davis Wilks Complex, 486 South Prospect Street



117,886 square foot brick over concrete 440 bed residence hall complex. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

Trinity Campus, Burlington Vermont

Jeanne Mance Hall, 394 Pearl Street



35,040 square foot brick over concrete block 153 bed residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Mercy Hall, 230 Colchester Avenue



32,500 square foot brick, masonry, steel 150 bed residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system. automatic sprinkler system, fire department standpipe system, fire pump, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Hunt Hall, 248 Colchester Avenue



10,500 square foot brick over wood frame 43 bed residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

McCann Hall, 240 Colchester Avenue



10,500 square foot brick over wood frame 43 bed residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Ready Hall, 246 Colchester Avenue



10,500 square foot brick over wood frame 43 bed residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

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Richardson Hall, 242 Colchester Avenue



10,500 square foot brick over wood frame 43 bed residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

Sichel Hall, 244 Colchester Avenue



10,500 square foot brick over wood frame 43 bed residence hall. Fire safety systems: fire and carbon monoxide alarm system, automatic sprinkler system, portable fire extinguishers, residential cooking fire suppression systems, fire department master radio call box.

The Cottages



252 Colchester Avenue      2,000 square foot wood frame “cottage.” Fire safety systems: automatic sprinkler system, fire and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

254 Colchester Avenue      2,500 square foot wood frame “cottage.” Fire safety systems: automatic sprinkler system, fire and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

256 Colchester Avenue      2,500 square foot wood frame “cottage.” Fire safety systems: automatic sprinkler system, fire and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

258 Colchester Avenue      2,500 square foot wood frame “cottage.” Fire safety systems: automatic sprinkler system, fire and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Apartments and Family Housing, Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester and Essex Vermont

County Apartments, Catamount Lane, Student Lane, University Lane



Addison House - 6248 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Bennington House - 4400 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Caledonia House - 8184 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Essex House - 8756 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Franklin House - 6160 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Lamoille House - 8756 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Orange House - 5280 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Orleans House - 8184 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Rutland House - 8184 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Washington House - 8756 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Windham House - 6300 square foot brick over wood frame apartment building. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

Ethan Allen Apartments, 1002-1115 Ethan Allen Avenue



The Apartments and Family Housing program is an integral part of the educational mission of The University of Vermont. Apartments and Family Housing serves student families, same sex couples, single graduate students, single non-traditional undergraduate students and single upper class undergraduates. This residential program provides a living/learning environment that is clean, safe, well maintained, conducive to academic success, personal, cultural and social growth, community involvement, and recognition of, and commitment to diversity.

1003 Ethan Allen Avenue - 5130 square foot wood siding over wood frame. Fire safety systems: automatic sprinkler system, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

34 additional buildings with 2 to 4 apartments in each, area up to 3648 square feet. All buildings are brick over wood frame. Fire safety systems: smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, portable fire extinguishers.

**CALENDAR YEAR 2008  
FIRE STATISTICS FOR STUDENT HOUSING**

LOCATION	FIRES	FIRE CAUSES	FIRE DEATHS
Harris Millis	0		0
Living Learning	1	Arson in two trash rooms	0
Marsh Austin Tupper	0		0
University Heights North and South	0		0
Chittenden Buckham Wills	0		0
Converse	0		0
Christie Wright Patterson	0		0
Coolidge	0		0
Mason Simpson Hamilton	0		0
Redstone	0		0
Slade	0		0
Wing Davis Wilks	0		0
Jeanne Mance	0		0
Mercy	0		0
Hunt	0		0
McCann	0		0
Ready	0		0
Richardson	0		0
Sichel	0		0
The Cottages	0		0
County Apartments	0		0
Ethan Allen Apartments	0		0

LOCATION	FIRE INJURIES	PROPERTY DAMAGE	FIRE DRILLS
Harris Millis	0		1
Living Learning	1 <sup>a</sup>	\$2,000	1
Marsh Austin Tupper	0		1
University Heights North and South	0		1
Chittenden Buckham Wills	0		1
Converse	0		1
Christie Wright Patterson	0		1
Coolidge	0		1
Mason Simpson Hamilton	0		1
Redstone	0		1
Slade	0		1
Wing Davis Wilks	0		1
Jeanne Mance	0		1
Mercy	0		1
Hunt	0		1
McCann	0		1
Ready	0		1
Richardson	0		1
Sichel	0		1
The Cottages	0		0
County Apartments	0		0
Ethan Allen Apartments	0		0

Notes:           <sup>a</sup>An employee sustained minor injuries attempting to extinguish a fire in a trash/recycling room.

## **HOUSING FIRE SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

The following information is reprinted from the University of Vermont Department of Residential Life Housing and Meal Plan Contract Terms and Conditions. A copy of the current year terms and conditions can be found on line at [http://reslife.uvm.edu/contract/reslife\\_contract.pdf](http://reslife.uvm.edu/contract/reslife_contract.pdf)

During the year, residence hall students will be informed about emergency evacuation of residence halls, and alarm systems will be tested periodically to ensure proper functioning.

### **Evacuation Procedures**

Residents are required to evacuate the building immediately when a fire alarm sounds. Failure to evacuate residence hall facilities is a federal offense and will result in educational sanctions and fines. The following fines will be levied for first, second and third time offenders:

- First offense: \$25
- Second offense: \$75
- Third offense: \$500

All fines will be posted to the student's account and must be paid prior to course registration or room selection.

### **Abuse, Tampering, and/or Misuse of Fire and Carbon Monoxide Safety Equipment**

Abuse or tampering with any life safety equipment or misuse of fire extinguishing equipment is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Life safety equipment includes fire and carbon monoxide alarm systems and any of their components, exit signs, emergency lights, fire and exit doors and hardware, and identification signs used by emergency responders. Offenders are subject to disciplinary action and **fines up to \$500**.

For additional information refer to the University Fire Safety policy at: <http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmppg/ppg/riskmgm/firesafety.pdf>.

### **Smoke-Free Campus**

All residence halls in all locations, including student rooms, are smoke-free. Smoking is also not allowed within twenty-five (25) feet of any building on campus. Smoking any substance or creating smoke through the use of incense, candles, or other scented smoke producing items is strictly prohibited in all residence halls.

### **Fire Hazards and Other Prohibited Items**

1. Students may not use cooking appliances or grills (including “George Foreman” electric grills) in their rooms, suites, common spaces, or in the vicinity of the residence halls. Exceptions are coffee pots with automatic shut-offs, 4.0 cubic foot refrigerators that are no more than 34” in height, 700 watt or lower microwaves, all of which are ULA listed.
2. No decorative covering or other flammable items, including but not limited to tapestries, should cover any doorway or be suspended from lofts, bunks, ceilings, exposed piping, or heating units.
3. Students may not remove screens from any residence hall windows. Hanging items outside of windows is prohibited.
4. Students may not install air conditioners.
5. Waterbeds are not permitted in the residence halls.
6. Unauthorized use of or tampering with elevators is prohibited.
7. Due to extreme risk of fire and the danger of electrical overload, the use of certain types of electrical equipment is prohibited, including: multi-plug adapters, halogen light bulbs (such as those found in most torchiere style lamps), sun lamps, immersion heaters, hot plates and other high wattage equipment, and space heaters.
8. Propping open or otherwise interfering with the closure of any entrance, exterior, or security door is prohibited.
9. Possession/use of candles, oil lamps, incense, storage of charcoal, flammable liquids such as gasoline, kerosene, “Coleman” fuels, or other items which create fire danger as a result of open flame or smoldering is prohibited.
10. Mercury thermometers, neon signs, and other items that may contain hazardous materials are prohibited.
11. Removal of University furniture, fixtures, or other property from residence hall rooms, suites, or common areas is prohibited.
12. Students may not install personal locks on any residence hall door.
13. Cinder blocks, bricks and/or other unauthorized bed risers are prohibited.
14. Extension cords are prohibited.

## **FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Annual fire safety education and training is provided for the Resident Advisors (RA's.) RA's conduct mandatory meetings for their communities and are the first line of defense in residence hall fire safety. The training curriculum for RA's includes fire prevention, fire behavior, evacuation procedures, basics of fire safety systems, hands-on fire extinguisher training, and conducting health and safety inspections.

Fire safety events are held periodically on various locations around campus. These are open to the entire campus community. These events include demonstrations of common fire hazards, escape from a smoke-filled room, hands-on fire extinguisher training, and burn prevention. Annual training is also provided to Greek organizations affiliated with the University, although their housing is not university owned or controlled. Fire safety workshops are conducted for students who will be moving off campus into private apartments.

Staff involved in welding or other hot work operations receive mandatory fire prevention and fire extinguisher training. All custodial services staff members receive fire prevention, fire safety, and hands-on fire extinguisher training. Staff involved in crowd management receive training. Faculty, staff, and student groups periodically receive fire safety training customized for their situation.

## **CURRENT INFORMATION FOR THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY**

All fires should be reported to UVM Police Services by calling 911 or 656-3473.

All on-campus fire alarms and fire incidents are recorded on the Public Safety Log. The log can be viewed on the UVM Police Services web site at:

<http://www.uvm.edu/~police/?Page=reports/index.php&SM=reports/nav.html>

For further information about fire and life safety at the University of Vermont, contact:

John Marcus, CFPS  
University Fire Marshal  
Department of Risk Management  
284 East Avenue  
Burlington, VT 05405

(802) 656-8249

[John.Marcus@uvm.edu](mailto:John.Marcus@uvm.edu)