Informational Newsletter for English-Speaking Residents

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Electrical Fire Prevention and Safety Tips

防ごう電気火災 「ひろしま市民と市政」11月15日号

Electrical fires are fires caused by electric appliances, wires, cords, and similar. As we face increasing numbers of these kinds of fires every year, it is important to regularly check places in your home and workplace that are at risk of electrical fires and take measures to prevent them.

Safety tips to avoid electrical fires:

Do not exceed the recommended wattage

Every electric cord and power strip has a recommended wattage. Do not exceed the recommended wattage or overload electric adapters by plugging too many appliances into one socket. As heat builds inside the plugs on cords, the more cords you connect to the outlet, the higher the risk of fire.

Perform regular checks and maintenance

To reduce the risk of fire from overheating due to worn insulation, do not put electric cords underneath rugs, carpets, or wedge them behind furniture. Replace worn, old or damaged electric cords, always ensure the plug is fully in the socket, and clean any dust or dirt that accumulates on the plug to help prevent electrical fires.

Lithium-ion batteries

Lithium-ion batteries are used in various devices and commonly used in cellphones, laptops, and tablets. When a strong external shock is applied, lithium-ion batteries can overheat, catch fire, or explode, resulting electric fires.

- Be careful not to drop your cellphone or hit it against surfaces.
- If your battery overheats or you notice abnormalities in the battery, such as a change in shape, discontinue use immediately.



■ Electric heaters

If you are using an electric heater to keep warm, keep it away from anything flammable. Be sure to exercise caution as improper operation of electrical appliances may result in fire.

- Do not place electric heaters close to any flammable materials, like curtains or bedding.
- Never use electric heaters to dry your clothes.

Inquires: Fire Prevention Division (Yobō Ka) Tel: 082-546-3476



