



# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT** **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **- Keep Your Kitchen Fire Safe -**

SANTA BARBARA, Ca. April 14, 2011- Thousands of people are seriously injured every year by cooking fires. The Santa Barbara County Fire Department suggests you keep your kitchen fire-safe and know what to do if a fire does start. Keep cooking surfaces clean so grease can't build up and start a fire. Never leave cooking unattended. If a fire starts in a pan on the stovetop, slide the pan's lid or a larger pan on top to smother the fire. If it's in the oven, turn off the heat and keep the oven door closed. You can also use a fire extinguisher if you have one and know how to use it. If the fire's too big, don't try to fight it. Leave the house right away and call the fire department from a neighbor's phone.

The Santa Barbara County Fire Department reminds people as a preventive action; keep your cooking appliances – including stovetops, burners, oven and broilers clean. Built up grease can flare up easily, causing dangerous and damaging fires. Keep combustible materials – paper towels, dish towels, paper bags, cookbooks, and food packaging away from the stove or other heat sources.

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