

Dear Association Members,

PLEASE BE REMINDED: Home owners are reminded to have dryer vents professionally checked and maintained to prevent fire hazards. Please take the time to review the information provided and address dryer vent fire prevention and avoid any liability issues in the event of a fire. Below is a copy of the ARROWHEAD BAY VILLAGE CONDO ASSOCIATION meeting minutes for October 25, 2014, addressing this issue:

MAINTENANCE ISSUE (as per meeting minutes)

*Homeowners are responsible for cleaning/maintaining dryer vents. **There are over 24,000 dryer related fires each year. This is a safety hazard!** The Association is recommending:*

John Devine-330-501-7184. *Please address. (John Devine provided this service to some members in 2014)*

LISTED BELOW ARE ADDITIONAL TIPS TO PREVENT FIRES CAUSED FROM DRYERS

Facts about home clothes dryer fires

- 2,900 home clothes dryer fires are reported each year and cause an estimated 5 deaths, 100 injuries, and \$35 million in property loss.
- The leading cause of home clothes dryer fires is failure to clean them (34 percent).
- More home clothes dryer fires occur in the fall and winter months, peaking in January.

Clothes dryer fire safety steps

It is important for ASSOCIATION residents to know the steps they can take to prevent dryer vent fires.

Clothes dryer do's

Installation

- Have your clothes dryer installed by a professional.
- Make sure the correct electrical plug and outlet are used and that the dryer is connected properly.
- Read manufacturers' instructions and warnings in use and care manuals that come with new dryers.

Cleaning

- Clean the lint filter before and after each load of laundry. Don't forget to clean the back of the dryer where lint can build up. In addition, clean the lint filter with a nylon brush at least every six months or more often if it becomes clogged.
- Clean lint out of the vent pipe every three months.

- **HAVE YOUR DRYER CLEANED REGULARLY BY A PROFESSIONAL, ESPECIALLY IF IT IS TAKING LONGER THAN NORMAL FOR CLOTHES TO DRY. (ESPECIALLY DRYER VENTS EXTENDING THROUGH THE ROOF)**

Maintenance

- Replace coiled-wire foil or plastic venting with rigid, non-ribbed metal duct. (dryer to wall)
- Have gas-powered dryers inspected every year by a professional to ensure that the gas line and connection are together and free of leaks..
- Keep the area around the clothes dryer free of items that can burn.
- If you will be away from home for an extended time, unplug or disconnect the dryer.

Clothes dryer don't's

- Don't use a clothes dryer without a lint filter or with a lint filter that is loose, damaged or clogged.
- Don't overload the dryer.
- Don't dry anything containing foam, rubber or plastic. An example of an item not to place in a dryer is a bathroom rug with a rubber backing.
- Don't dry any item for which manufacturers' instructions state "dry away from heat."
- Don't dry glass fiber materials (unless manufacturers' instructions allow).
- Don't dry items that have come into contact with anything flammable like alcohol, cooking oils or gasoline. Dry them outdoors or in a well-ventilated room, away from heat.
- Don't leave a clothes dryer running if you leave home or when you go to bed.

The association trustees appreciate your anticipated cooperation in addressing this important fire prevention issue.

Sunday, March 5, 2017