# DRYERVENT SAFETY

The U.S. Fire Administration reports an estimated 15,970 fires directly related to washers and dryers on a yearly basis.

- **92%** of the reported fires are **dryer-related**.
- **34%** of these fires are caused by *not cleaning* the dryer.
- It is also reported dryer-related fires tend to peak in the winter months.

## MAINTENANCE TIPS

#### **CLEAN LINT SCREEN**

Clean the lint screen after each use. Otherwise, lint buildup will decrease your dryer's efficiency and pose a fire hazard.

#### **BE AWARE OF EXCESS LINT**

Clean all removed lint and dryer vents from the floor, under the dryer and from behind the dryer routinely. This material can get stuck in the electronics of the dryer causing fire or equipment failure.





#### **CHECK DRYER DUCT BI-YEARLY**

This can be done by disconnecting the discharge at the back of the dryer. Clogged vents can be professionally cleaned or done by purchasing a dryer vent cleaning tool at your local hardware store.

#### LOOKOUT FOR CRUSHED VENTS

Crushed vents or an installation method that restricts air discharge should be replaced immediately. Consult your local appliance specialist for correct piping and vent connections.

### **ENSURE PROPER AIRFLOW**

Make sure your exterior vent discharge is clear and allowing proper airflow discharge. *If* you see lint, your duct needs to be cleaned.

#### FOR MORE DRYER RELATED SAFETY TIPS PLEASE VISIT: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/clothes\_dryers.html







