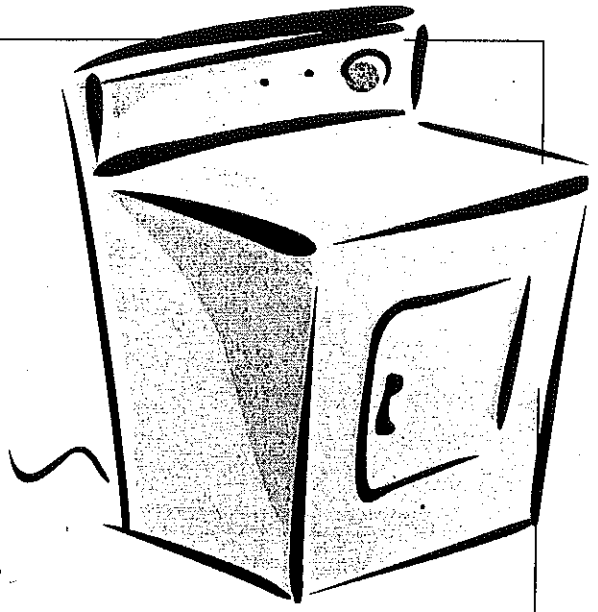
Prevent Dryer Fires



In 2004, 1/2 of the clothes dryer fires occured in 1- & 2-family homes and caused 6 civilian injuries and $758,250 in damages.

- **Clean the filter screen after each load.**
  This will keep the vent clear. When accumulated lint clogs the vent, the dryer can overheat and a fire could result.

- **Stay home while the dryer is in use!**
  Turn off the dryer before leaving the house.

- **Clean vents to outside.**
  Twice a year you should clean the plastic hose pipe that vents to the outside. Use the vacuum cleaner to suck out accumulated dust and lint.

- **Vacuum the motor area.**
  The dust and lint in the vent pipe can ignite if it gets hot enough. Vacuum the motor area if you can get to it. You may have to remove a panel to get at it.

- **Clean commercial dryer vents regularly.**
  Commercial dryers get a lot of use and will have a common venting system. It is extremely important to have the vent systems cleaned regularly.

- **Don't dry mop heads.**
  The dryer's heat can ignite the cleaning chemical residue on mop heads.

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