



Did you know heating equipment is a leading cause of fires in U.S. homes? These homes included one- and two-family homes (including manufactured homes) and apartments (including townhouses and other multi-family dwellings).

Heating equipment fires accounted for 16% of all reported home fires in 2009-2013 (second behind cooking) and 19% of home fire deaths (second behind smoking materials).

Space heaters are the type of heating equipment most often involved in home heating fires, figuring in two of every five of these fires and accounting for 84% of associated civilian deaths, 75% of civilian injuries, and 52% of direct property damage.

The leading factor contributing to ignition for home heating fire deaths (56%) was heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding.

The leading factor contributing to home heating fires (30%) was failure to clean, principally from solid-fueled heating equipment, primarily chimneys.

Almost half of home heating equipment fires are reported during the months of December, January, and February.

To be safe, energy efficient as well as saving you money, the National Fire Protection Association suggests:

- Have your heating system maintained and serviced according to manufacturer's instructions (usually once a year). Dirty filters, coils and fans reduce airflow throughout the system, which decreases performance and can damage your system. Scheduling your service in the fall when technicians are not as busy will save you money as well.
- Have chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.

A1 Comfort Heating and Cooling, Inc., is available to service all your heating and cooling needs with 24/7 hour service.

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Source: NFPA's "[Home Fires Involving Heating Equipment](#)"

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