



Gasoline Safety



There has been a steady decline in the average number of gasoline fires in homes each year since 1980 when there were 15,000 fires.

FACTS

- In 1998, there were 4,700 gasoline fires in U.S. homes, resulting in 86 deaths, 463 injuries and \$92 million in direct property damage.
- 53% of home gasoline fires each year between 1994 and 1998 were categorized as incendiary or suspicious. Three-quarters of civilian injuries resulted from unintentional causes such as fuel spills, or releases, using gasoline to wash parts, clean or refinish, gasoline too close to a heat source, children playing, improper storage, using gasoline to kindle a fire, and improper fueling technique.
- Matches were the most common ignition source in home gasoline fires.

Safety Tips

- Keep gasoline out of children's sight and reach. Children should never handle gasoline.
- Do not use or store gasoline near possible ignition sources.
- Store gasoline outside the home in a tightly closed metal or plastic container.
- Never use gasoline inside the home or as a cleaning agent.
- Do not smoke when handling gasoline.