

## **Clothes Dryer Safety**

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates 15,500 fires associated with clothes dryers occur annually in the U.S. These fires account for an average of 10 deaths and 310 injuries and more than \$84.4 million in property damage annually.

- Do not operate the dryer without a lint filter. Clean lint filters before or after each use and remove accumulated lint from around the drum.
- Make sure that the dryer is plugged into an outlet suitable for its electrical needs as overloaded electrical outlets can result in blown fuses or tripped circuit breakers.
- Turn the dryer off when leaving the home.
- Keep the dryer area clear of combustibles (i.e., boxes or clothing).
- Dryers should be installed and serviced by a professional.
- Have gas-powered dryers inspected by a professional regularly to ensure that the gas line and connection are intact.