



GET THAT LINT OUT DRYER FIRES EXPOSED

Clothes dryer fires, small and large, can have devastating consequences:

The homeowner reported to police that there was a fire inside her clothes dryer, police said. A red glow coming from underneath the machine had prompted her to open the door at which point she discovered the flames, police said.

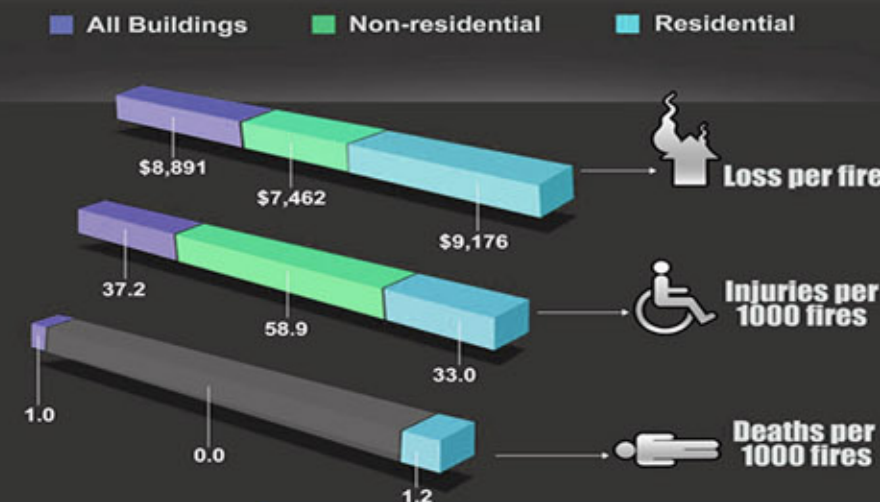
Three fire departments were called to extinguish a house fire that started at 9 Schuyler St. which they said started in a clothes dryer in a rear area of the home.

A 3-year-old Staten Island boy is being hailed a "little hero" for alerting his family about a blaze in the basement of their home. The father found a fire behind the clothes dryer and extinguished the flames but they reignited.

Clothes Dryer Fire Safety Tips

- Clean the lint filter before or after each use.
- Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- Do not operate the dryer without a lint filter.
- Rigid or flexible metal venting materials should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- Make sure the air exhaust bent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating.
- Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Keep dryers in good working order. Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that the machine is connected properly.
- Do not leave a dryer running if you leave home or when you go to bed.
- Never dry items that have come in contact with flammable substances, such as cooking oil, gasoline, paint thinner, or alcohol.
- Keep the dryer area clear of things that can burn, such as boxes or clothing.

Loss Measures for Clothes Dryer Fires in Buildings [All fires, 3-year average (2002-2004)]



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How much does it cost to cover the loss of a dryer fire?

On average
\$7,000 to \$9,000