



Washing machine effluent may provide clues in dryer fire investigations.

By Dale C. Mann & Michael M. Fitz, PE

Investigators are becoming increasingly aware of the possible role spontaneous combustion of cooking oils (and other oils) plays in residential clothes dryer fires. As a prudent investigator, you should consider that spontaneous combustion, rather than a defective dryer, caused a fire. If the fire consumes the load in the dryer, though, what's left to test? Previous Fire Findings' tests suggested lint from the last load may contain residual oil that can provide clues. (See related stories in Fire Findings, Vol. 4, Nos. 3 and 4, Vol. 6, No. 4, and Vol. 7, No. 1.) Now Dale Mann and Michael Fitz on MDE Forensic Laboratories, Inc. have other suggestions for testing the hypothesis that spontaneous combustion may have been involved in a dryer fire.

*Full article - [Click here!](http://www.firefindings.com)
www.firefindings.com*