

"For safety's sake—do something."

Holiday Season Fire Safety



Festive celebrations, flickering lights, and winter decorations are hallmarks of the holiday season. That also means a great risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a fire-safe holiday season.

HOLIDAY LIGHT SAFETY

- If you're using old lights, check the wires to make sure there are no signs of fraying or cracking.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections.

HOLIDAY TREE SAFETY

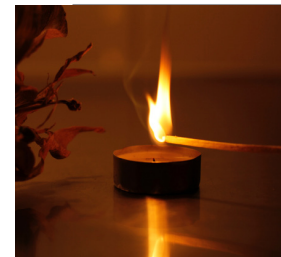
- Keep your tree at least three feet away from all heat sources (like fireplaces, radiators, and heat vents).
- Choose a sturdy stand so the tree will not tip over.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Once the holiday season is over you should get rid of a real tree as soon as possible.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Trim wicks to a quarter of an inch before you light them. Only let candles burn for one hour for every inch of diameter so the wax can melt evenly.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.



- **More than one-third of home decoration fires are started by candles.**
- **More than two of every five decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.**



BLOW OUT lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed.

TURN OFF all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.