

HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

Fact

- A dry Christmas tree can be consumed by fire in an instant, while generating enough heat to ignite an entire room.

Safe Behavior

Winter holidays can be a joyous time for all, if you **practice holiday fire safety at home**.

- Protect neighborhood homes this winter. Keep your nearest fire hydrant clear of snow.
- After holiday parties, check wastebaskets and furniture for smoldering cigarettes.
- Place holiday decorations well away from heat sources. If you use a live tree, water it daily.
- Do not burn holiday wrappings in a fireplace; it may cause a chimney fire.
- Pay attention to cooking. If a pan is on fire, cover it with a lid. Water will spread the fire.
- Turn off and unplug lights and decorations before going to bed or leaving your house. Buy electrical decorations that have been approved by a national testing laboratory. Don't overload outlets.

Candle Burning Safety Tips:

- Place candles on a secure surface in sturdy noncombustible holders that won't tip over. Make sure holders are big enough to catch drippings.
- Keep candles away from children and pets. Candles should be out of children's reach.
- Keep candles away from combustible items such as curtains, books, and paper. Remember the "three-foot rule" — anything combustible needs to be kept three feet from a heat source.
- Keep candles away from flammable liquids. Do not use a candle for light when fueling a kerosene heater or lantern. The flame may ignite the fumes.
- Avoid using candles during a power outage. A flashlight is a safer option. Don't carry a lit candle.
- Remember to extinguish candles when leaving the room or going to sleep. Never leave children or pets unattended in a room with a lit candle.

Additional Materials

- National Fire Protection Association, 800-344-3555