



Holiday Fire Safety Tips

from the Seattle Fire Department

Every December and January, the number of candle, lighting and holiday tree-related fires increases.

Here is a list of tips to help keep you and your family safe this holiday season.



Candle Safety

- Extinguish all candles when leaving a room or before going to sleep.
- Always use a candleholder that is heat resistant, sturdy and large enough to contain any drips or melted wax.
- Keep burning candles away from items that can catch on fire such as furniture, drapes, bedding, carpets, books, paper, etc.
- Use battery-operated flameless candles to avoid a potential candle fire.

Holiday Lighting Safety

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions on how to use tree lights.
- Any string lights with worn, frayed or broken cords or loose bulbs should not be used.
- Do not connect more than three light strands together.
- Do not use nails or staples to hang lights to avoid damage to the cord.

Fresh-cut Tree Safety

- Always unplug tree lights before leaving home or going to sleep.
- Keep your tree away from fireplaces, portable and baseboard heaters.
- Try to keep fresh-cut trees as moist as possible by giving them plenty of water each day.

And finally, make sure your smoke alarms are working and that you practice a home escape plan.