



GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE

HOLIDAY SAFETY

PUBLIC EDUCATION ISSUE 8

MAKE SAFETY A FAMILY HOLIDAY TRADITION

ensuring a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

SAFETY TIPS

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.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any strings of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

BEFORE HEADING OUT OR TO BED

- 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.
- Make sure all kitchen equipment like stovetops and ovens are completely shut off.



More fire safety information can be found through the National Fire Protection Association: <https://nfpa.org/education>





CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY

PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.

PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.

LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly

AFTER CHRISTMAS

- Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.
- Check your local community to find a recycling program.
- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.



Making sure you implement safety into your holiday traditions is crucial to preventing any fire-related emergencies.

FACTS



One quarter of home Christmas fires are caused by electrical problems.



Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.



A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly **one in every four** of the fires.

