

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.

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.
- >>>> 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.
- >>> Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

Your Source for SAFETY Information NFPA NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169



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.

FACTS

- () Holiday decoration fires are most likely to happen in the living room, family room or den.
- () Almost half of all home decoration fires are started by candles.
- Half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

www.nfpa.org/education