



Here are some seasonal safety tips you may wish to share with family, friends and clients.

Christmas Trees

Buy them as fresh as possible, not brown, and no falling needles. Store the tree outside with the stub in a bucket of water until you are ready to bring inside. Cut about an inch off the bottom, so the tree can absorb water. Place in a secure base and keep water in the base, and/or use products designed to keep trees fresh. Make sure the tree is far enough away (at least 3 feet) from any sort of heat (*i.e., fireplace, candles, etc.*) Water the tree daily; a dry tree is a fire hazard. Turn off the lights when not at home. Compost your tree or take it to the landfill site, NEVER burn the tree especially in fireplaces or stoves

Decorating tips

Use lights that are UL listed and make sure there is no damaged wiring. Make sure you use lights appropriately – indoor lights inside, outdoor lights outside. Interchanging is dangerous and can be a fire hazard. *Read the manufacturer's labels and follow their instructions.* Plug in outdoor lights in a ground fault receptacle to prevent a deadly shock. On your indoor tree, it is preferable to use smaller bulbs that produce less heat as with the newer LED lights. Always use non-flammable decorations. Never use candles on trees and ALWAYS turn off the tree lights, when not at home, or asleep.

Portable Heaters

Do not use extension cords with electrical heaters. Make sure plugs wires are in good condition. Keep away from combustibles, including the Christmas tree. Read the manufacturer's labels and follow their instructions.

Holiday Candles

Only use candles with a base large enough to contain melted wax. Secure base to avoid candle from tipping over. Be especially alert in keeping children away from candles. NEVER leave unattended – even if it's in the next room.

Parties

Exercise and enforce a no drinking and driving policy. Make sure there are plenty of ashtrays that will keep cigarettes confined to a safe area.

Other Safety tips

Check your smoke alarms to make sure they are working (*replace batteries*). Make sure that you have a working carbon monoxide detector. Have a Class ABC fire extinguisher on hand.

Hoping you have a safe and happy holiday season

Courtesy of
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