

Winter and Holiday Fire Safety Checklist

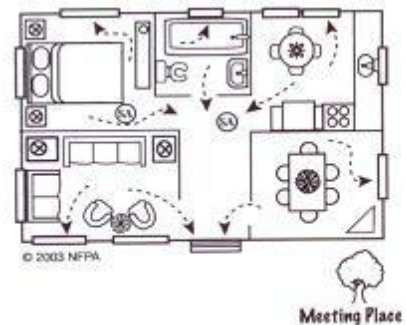
Decorating

- Inspect holiday lights and extension cords for damage.
- Don't overload electrical outlets or extension cords.
- If purchasing a natural Christmas tree, check for freshness to minimize fire hazard of dry needles.
- Place tree and decorations far away from any heat sources.
- Keep lighted candles away from combustibles or use flameless battery-operated type.
- Extinguish any lit candles before leaving the room or the house for an extended period of time and before going to bed.



Entertaining

- Don't leave cooking food unattended.
- Test smoke alarms and tell family and guests your home escape plan.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside and keep lighters & matches out of reach of children.
- Keep pets and children away from any lit candles.



Fire and Carbon Monoxide Safety

- Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors every month.
- Be sure that fireplaces and chimneys have been inspected and cleaned by a professional.
- Put fireplace ashes in a non-combustible container outdoors.
- Keep space heaters 3 feet away from any combustibles and follow manufacturer's recommendations for temporary use.



Facts

- One of every three home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- Almost half of all home decoration fires are started by candles.
- Unattended cooking is the leading cause of U.S. home fires and home fire injuries.

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