

SAFE Holiday Practice



Use candle holders



Place trees away from heat sources



Secure outdoor lights

UNSAFE Holiday Practice



Do not place gifts or ornaments near flames



Do not overload circuits with Christmas lights



Do not place candles on real or artificial trees

Important Safety Tips

Christmas Tree Safety

- 1) Set up ALL Christmas Trees away from fire places, portable heaters, heater vents and televisions.
- 2) Check the water level in your Christmas tree daily. A six foot tree will absorb one gallon of water every two days.
- 3) Check Christmas tree lights for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wire or loose connections.
- 4) Use only non-combustible or flame resistant material to trim a tree.
- 5) NEVER use lighted candles on a tree (real or artificial)
- 6) Use no more than three standard-size lights per single

Safe Candle Use

- 1) Burn candles away from drafts, heat sources and all flammable objects or materials.
- 2) Candles should be used in appropriate non-tipping, non-flammable holder. Holders should be made from tempered glass or have a proper glaze.
- 3) Candles should be used on a safe, heat resistant dry surface.
- 4) Remove labels and tags from candles before burning.
- 5) Keep the wax pool free of foreign objects such as wick trimmings and matches.
- 6) Keep the wick centered. This will protect the candle holder since a flame that's too close for too long may crack the holder.
- 7) Keep wicks trimmed to ¼ inch at all times.

Outdoor Christmas Lights

- 1) Use only outdoor lights outside your home and use lights that have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory.
- 2) Check lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires or loose connections.
- 3) Before putting up holidays lights plug in each strand for 10-15 minutes to ensure the lights don't melt or smoke.
- 4) Use no more than three standard size set of lights per single extension cord.
- 5) Always use extension cords with a three pronged plug that are approved for outdoor use.
- 6) For added electric shock protection, plug outdoor lights and decorations into circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs)
- 7) Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house walls or other firm supports to protect lights from wind damage. Secure light strands with insulated staples that are hammered in or through hooks.
- 8) Turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house.

Fire Place/Wood Stove Safety

- 1) Ensure the area around the fireplace is clear of furniture, books, ornaments and any other flammable materials. A two foot minimum is a good rule of thumb.
- 2) Clean out ashes from previous fires using a non-combustible container with tight fitting lid and place outside away from combustibles.
- 3) Use fireplace tools to tend to the fire.
- 4) Do not overload the fireplace with wood. Usually a couple of pieces will suffice.
- 5) Never use gasoline or any liquid accelerant to help start the fire.
- 6) Never leave a fire unattended
- 7) Do not close any dampers until the embers have completely stopped burning.
- 8) Have all hearth products (gas, wood burning stove, wood burning fireplace) maintained annually.

End of Season

- 1) Try and discard real Christmas trees within one month after purchase. Take trees to a recycling centre, have it hauled away by a community pick up service or contact local authorities for recommended means of disposal.
- 2) NEVER burn a used Christmas tree in a fireplace or wood stove. Firs & pines have lots of sap which can explode. Needles burn like tinder, quickly & fiercely. Flames can flare up out of control and send sparks across a room.
- 3) Discard of wrapping paper and packaging in a safe manner as they are extremely flammable.
- 4) Remove outdoor lights as soon as the season is over as they are not designed for prolonged exposure to the elements.

CAMROSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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PLAY IT SAFE!!



HOLIDAYS & YOU:

CELEBRATE SAFELY

