



K9 Reeves

K9 Anthem

HOLIDAY SAFETY EDUCATOR

A Family Fire & Life Safety Education Newsletter



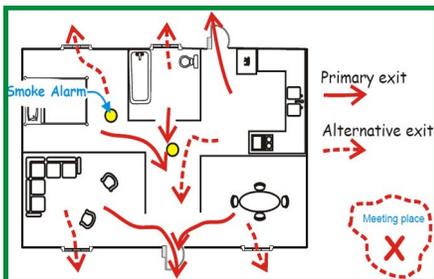
The holiday season can be a very busy and hectic time. The NH State Fire Marshal's Office and your local fire department would like to urge all citizens to look for, and correct, potential dangers from cooking, heating, holiday lights, and decorations that could lead to fires or injuries. Please take a moment to help make sure that your family, friends and visitors are kept safe by looking over this newsletter. From all of us at the NH State Fire Marshal's Office, "May you and yours have a very safe and memorable holiday season!"

Be sure to click on the [red links](#) to learn more.



1. **TEST SMOKE ALARMS** If you did not change the batteries on Nov 3rd **PLEASE** take a moment to do so now. Remember smoke alarms themselves have an expiration date and need to be replaced every 10 years.

2. **CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS** should be properly working and placed throughout the home on every every level and in the garage according to manufacturer's directions. Periodically check to make sure they are working.



3. Create/review your home **ESCAPE PLAN** with **TWO WAYS OUT OF EVERY ROOM** and be sure the plan is hanging visible n a central location. Practice with family members and visitors, especially those spending the night.

4. Be sure your **OUTDOOR MEETING PLACE** is established and understood by all. Should an alarm sound, **GET OUT** and **STAY OUT**. As you exit, close all doors behind you. **Do not return into the home** for any reason.

5. **REVIEW** with children and family members **the proper use of 9-1-1** from both a home phone and cell phone so everyone knows how to contact **911**

should an emergency arise and help be needed.

Traveling for the holidays? No matter where you are staying be sure to take a moment and **review escape plans and safety measures** for that type of home/building. Keep your family **SAFE** this holiday season!



NOVEMBER: CARBON MONOXIDE AWARENESS & SAFETY



Carbon monoxide is known as an "Invisible Killer" because it is a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. It can be caused by, or released from, faulty furnaces/heating appliances, cars left running in garages or misplaced portable generators. Landon reminds us never run vehicles or other fueled engines indoors. **Be SAFER this winter season with this very important reminder from Landon.**

COOK your TURKEY, NOT your HOME.

The NH State Fire Marshal's Office strongly discourages the use of outdoor gas-fueled turkey fryers that cook the turkey in hot oil. The use of turkey fryers can lead to devastating burns as well as property damage.

5 DANGERS OF FRYING A TURKEY:

1. Turkey fryers can easily tip over, spilling hot oil over a large area.
2. An overfilled cooking pot will cause oil to spill when the turkey is put in. A partially frozen turkey will also cause cooking oil to splatter when put into the pot.
3. Even a small amount of cooking oil spilling on a hot burner can cause a large fire.
4. Without thermostat controls, deep fryers can overheat oil to the point of starting a fire.
5. The sides of the cooking pot, lid, and pot handles can get dangerously hot.



Please take the time to visit the links below to learn more about the dangers of turkey frying, cooking alternatives and turkey fryer safety tips. WWW.CPSC.GOV WWW.USFA.GOV



WWW.NFPA.ORG

HOLIDAY COOKING SAFETY

We know that the kitchen is the heart of the home, especially during the holiday season. Did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and injuries? Follow a few safety tips to prevent these fires.



- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, boiling or broiling dinner.
- If you are simmering, baking or roasting food, check it regularly. Stay in the kitchen while food is cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire; oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels, curtains, and/or clothing, away from the stovetop.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay at least 3 feet away.

IF YOU HAVE A COOKING FIRE:

- Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

IF YOU HAVE ANY DOUBT ABOUT FIGHTING A SMALL FIRE....

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 from outside the home.

CLICK on one of these VIDEOS below for more on COOKING SAFETY.





DECK THE HALLS... SAFELY

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. Consider using battery operated candles as a safer option.

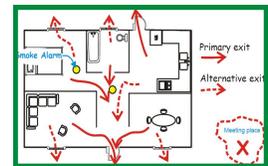
- ▶ Some decorative lights are designated only for indoor, or outdoor use, but not both. Follow the manufacturers instructions for safe usage.
- ▶ Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands that can be connected together.
- ▶ Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- ▶ Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING



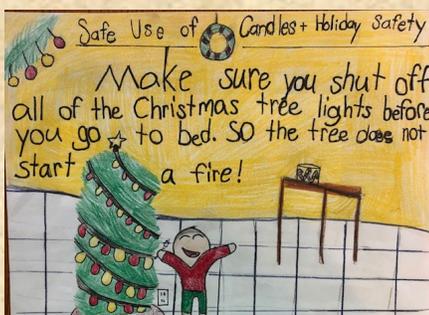
- ▶ Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan and meeting place.
- ▶ Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- ▶ Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- ▶ Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- ▶ Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.



3rd GRADE ANNUAL CALENDAR CONTEST

Every year the NH State Fire Marshal's Office and the NH Fire Prevention Society hold an Annual Fire & Life Safety Calendar Contest. This contest is open to **ALL** 3rd grade students in public, private and home school settings. Students are encouraged to pick a monthly topic (list found on the linked learn more page), to research the safety topic and to then design a clear and colorful poster with their important safety message. We need your help in keeping citizens safer and are looking forward to receiving your entry!

[LEARN MORE!](#)



DECEMBER: SAFE USE OF CANDLES and HOLIDAY SAFETY

By: Carter Blanco

Carter would like to remind us to unplug and shut off all of our Christmas tree lights before going to bed so the tree does not catch on fire while we are sleeping. Excellent reminder Carter, thank you!

CHRISTMAS TREES: ***Festive, Fun and FLAMMABLE***

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. Follow these recommended safety tips.



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 an exit.
- **Add water to the tree stand daily.**



Lighting the Tree

- Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory such as UL or ASTM. 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.

TREE Safety



Tips: Prevent Holiday Tree Fires



CANDLE SAFETY



- Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that could burn.
- Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily.
- Put candle holders on a sturdy uncluttered surface.
- Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.

■ Don't burn a candle all the way down — put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.

- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.

Learn more on Candle Safety



LEARN MORE

Paul J. Parisi
NH State Fire Marshal



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Message from Marshal Parisi:

Tis the season for gatherings, gratitude and get-togethers!

We all agree it is fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but what many of us do not realize is that the holidays, and their decorations, increase the risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, please be fire smart.

- While cooking traditional holiday meals, stay in the kitchen especially while cooking on the stovetop.
- Keep small children and pets at least 3 feet away from the stove.
- Read manufacturer’s instructions for the number of light strands that can be safely connected together.
- While live Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are rapid and dangerous. On average, 1 of every 31 reported home Christmas tree fires result in death.
- Make sure your tree is watered daily and at least 3 feet away from any and all heat sources.

By taking a moment to ensure that your home is safe this holiday season, your holidays will become much less worrisome. This interactive newsletter contains not only valuable information on how to do this, but excellent video links to enhance your understanding on the topics provided. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your local fire department or the State Fire Marshal’s Office.



Paul J. Parisi
 NH State Fire Marshal

Find Us on the Web:
www.nh.gov/firesafety

If you **see** something, **say** something
 REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY
 Call **9-1-1** or your local police department

"If You See Something, Say Something" used with permission of the NY Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

"If you **see** something, **say** something" is a national campaign that raises public awareness of the indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime, as well as the importance of reporting suspicious activity to state and local law enforcement.

[LEARN MORE](#)

K9, Student and Parent Approved Websites:

While we encourage students to disconnect and enjoy safe outdoor play we understand that sometimes the weather just doesn't cooperate. So when it comes to computer time try any one of these child friendly fire and life safety websites! Just click a picture to open the link and explore. Have fun learning to be safer!



ReadyNH.gov
 TAKE ACTION. BE SAFE.

Any questions or comments regarding this newsletter please feel free to contact:

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