

WINTER FIRE SAFETY

PROTECTING YOUR FAMILY THIS WINTER HEATING SEASON

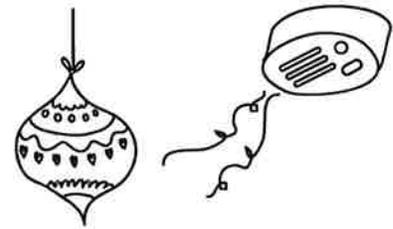
Over half of all home heating fires occur in December, January, and February. Additionally, **\$2 billion** in property loss occurs from winter home fires.

If you're concerned about fire safety this winter, complete this simple checklist to ensure you have a safe holiday season.



QUICK CHECKS

- Have you tested your smoke alarms?
- Have you tested your carbon monoxide alarms?
- Have you gotten your furnace professionally inspected?
- Have you gotten your chimney professionally cleaned and inspected?
- Have you checked your appliances for worn or damaged cords?
- Have you checked your dryer exhaust vent for lint buildup?
- Do you have a covered metal container ready to dispose of cooled ashes?

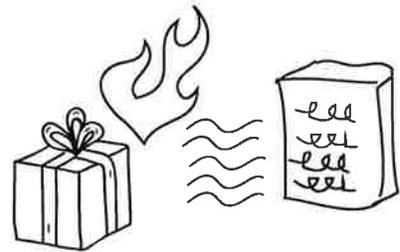


60% of fire deaths result from fires in homes without working smoke alarms.



TOO HOT TO HANDLE

- Do your portable space heaters have an automatic shutoff?
- Is there at least three feet of space between space heaters and other objects?
- Do you turn space heaters off overnight or when unattended?
- Are your space heaters plugged directly into an outlet?
- Do your children know to stay 3 feet away from any space heater?
- Do you always use a fire guard in front of a burning fire?

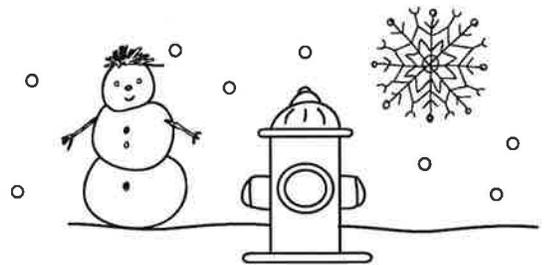


30% of residential heating fires occur because the heat source is too close to things that can burn.



JUST IN CASE

- If there's a fire hydrant near your home, are you committed to keeping it free of snow?
- Have you made and practiced a **fire escape plan**?
- Do you have a fire extinguisher handy?
- Do your children know how to dial 911?
- Are your house numbers easily visible?
- Have you packed an emergency supply kit in your home?



Keeping a fire hydrant free of snow can give your local fire department precious minutes when fighting a home fire.