



## Winter And Holiday Season Fire Safety

### Avoiding Fire in the Winter

- » To avoid a fire, leave at least a three-foot space open around any heating appliance.
- » Be sure to turn off portable or space heaters before going to bed or leaving a residence.
- » Do not use heaters that burn fuel such as kerosene inside a residence unless absolutely necessary. These types of appliances in closed places are a source of ignition and can also generate life-threatening carbon monoxide.
- » Get a carbon monoxide detector that will alert you to any high concentrations of this deadly gas.
- » Never store or use flammable liquids inside a residence, such as stripping furniture or storing a motorcycle or gasoline. The vapors from these types of liquids can easily ignite from stoves or water heaters.
- » Always store combustible materials away from furnaces, portable or space heaters.

### Enjoying the Holiday Season Fire Free

- » Keep a holiday tree well-watered and make sure it does not dry out. Trees can easily ignite from hot holiday lights and if dry, will burn very quickly and spread fire throughout your dwelling.
- » Check tree light bulbs before putting them on a tree to ensure they are working properly and no shorts exist in the wiring.
- » Avoid using extension cords. If you must use an extension cord, make sure it is not cracked or frayed and is UL approved. If you must use extension cords, use those that carry enough electric load for the appliance. The labels on the appliance and cord should have this information.
- » When replacing a fuse, only replace it with the same size.

For more information about American Family's Loss Control Services, visit [www.amfam.com](http://www.amfam.com)

#### DISCLAIMER

The recommendations printed here follow generally accepted safety standards. Compliance with these recommendations does not guarantee that you will be in conformance with any building code, or federal, state or local regulations regarding safety or fire. Compliance does not ensure the absolute safety of you or your home.