



# HOME SAFETY



## Top Causes of Fire

**CANDLES:** December is the peak time for candle fires, with 12% of fires beginning with decorations compared to 4% the rest of the year.

**SMOKING:** 1 out of 4 fatal victims of smoking-material fires is not the smoker whose cigarette started the fire.

**COOKING:** Two-thirds of home cooking fires start with the ignition of food and other cooking materials.

**SPACE HEATERS:** Give Space heaters space!!! They account for 4 out of 5 home heating fire deaths.



### CANDLES

- Always keep candles at least one foot away from anything flammable.
- Always put candles in a sturdy pedestal that won't tip over.
- Never use a candle as a night light.
- Always remember to extinguish all candles before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Have flashlights ready and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.

### SMOKING



- Never smoke if medical oxygen is used in the home.
- Never smoke in bed or other areas where people sleep.
- Smoke outside. Most deaths result from fires that started in living rooms, family rooms, dens or bedrooms.
- Keep smoking materials out of reach of children.
- Always use deep, sturdy ashtrays.
- Remember to wet cigarette butts and ashes before throwing them out.

## Smoke Alarms Save Lives!!!

### SPACE HEATERS



- Always keep heating equipment at least three feet away from anything that can burn... including yourself.
- Always plug space heaters directly into the wall and never plug into an extension cord.
- Always shut off and unplug heaters when you go to bed or leave the house.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room.
- Never use the oven to heat your house.



### COOKING

- Never leave cooking unattended. If you must leave the room, it can help to bring a cooking utensil or oven mitt to help you remember the food.
- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- If a pan or food catches fire, slide a lid over it and turn off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.
- Never put water on a grease or oil fire.