

Keep the Holiday Period Safe
BY Using the NFPA Home Rules

"Fire never takes a holiday — not even on Christmas," warns Chief Maurice D. Foltz, Director of the Farmington City Department of Public Safety.

"It's particularly important that we keep this mind during the holiday season ahead, for many of our customs and Christmas activities, there may come the careless, thoughtless act which opens the door to deadly fire," Chief Foltz cautions.

THIS IS THE SEASON, says the National Fire Protection Association, when mothers doing last-minute shopping may be tempted to leave small children at home unsupervised "for just a few moments." The tragic aftermath for some is to come because to find fire has made it a place of death and destruction.

Especially during the holiday season, always heed the first rule of fire safety for your children: Never, never leave them alone and unattended even "just a few moments."

CHIEF FOLTZ SAYS, "You can keep fire hazards to a minimum in your home for Christmas by following these suggestions from the National Fire Protection Association:

1.) When picking out a tree, choose a fresh one. Saw off the boughs at an angle an inch or more above the original cut. Stand the tree in water from the time you buy it until you dispose of it. Don't rely on chemical preparations to "flame-proof" your tree—none is truly effective. Set the tree away from radiators or fireplace, and never where it might block your escape in case of fire.

If you choose a plastic tree, be sure it is marked as made of slow-burning materials. If it has a built-in lighting system, it should carry the Underwriters' Laboratories Label. Metal trees will conduct electricity, so use only indirect lighting. Lighting strings on the tree may create a dangerous shock hazard.

2.) Decorative lighting should be used with care. Check lighting strings before using for frayed wires, loose connections and broken sockets. Never use wax candles on or near the tree, or with polystyrene foam

candle holders or decorations. Turn off tree and other decorative lighting before retiring or leaving the house. For outdoor lighting, use only sets listed for outdoor use by the Underwriters' Laboratories.

3.) Use noncombustible decorating material (metal, glass, asbestos, etc.) wherever possible. Combustible-like cotton batting, flocking, and paper — be sure they are "flame-proofed."

4.) Dispose of gift wrappings promptly. (It's unsafe to burn them in a living room or game room fireplace.)

5.) Be extra careful about smoking, especially near trees.

Most important of all, plan in advance the escape measures and exit routes needed for the life safety of your family in case of fire, NFPA urges.

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Appliance and Catalog Store

FARMINGTON CENTER



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Bon Ton Shoppe

DOWN TOWN FARMINGTON CENTER



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31623 Grand River



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DIVISION OF CITY PRODUCTS CORPORATION

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(\$0 Feet)
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