

home & garden

Planning Cuts Holiday Hazards

Is it your turn to have the whole family in for Christmas dinner? It should be a great party but will require careful planning and preparation.

The Consumers Insurance Information Bureau suggests that even before you pick out the Christmas goose or turkey, make some plans so

that everyone has a safe time.

After the gifts are open, assign the head of the house to make sure all wrappings are cleared away. They can be a hazard for fires and falls.

Traffic

It may not work but try to get the children to keep the

toys and games out of the line of traffic. This may break down once company arrives but it's worth the effort.

If the lord of the manor is to be bartender for the day, assign him a location and make sure he gets all his needs out of your way before the cooking is begun. Once you are started on dinner, you don't need extra traffic through the kitchen.

The bureau says it might be a good idea to assign the children a place to play. The basement or a spare bedroom would be good. At any rate ban them from your work area. Hot stoves and bubbling pots do not mix with children.

to distribute the load. Do not plug them all in to one line or try to use them at one time.

Candles

In wanting to set a pretty table, keep safety in mind again. If candles are part of the setting keep them away from any evergreen centerpiece. Make sure the candles are firmly set in holders and are lighted only while you and your guests are at the table.

Alcohol

If drinks are served before, during and after dinner make an allowance of at least an hour between the last drink and the time your company leaves. Alcohol has a cumulative effect on people.

Knives

Take an extra moment along the way to make sure that all pot handles are turned in so no one can bump them. Keep sharp knives away from counter edges and appliances away from the sink.

If you are using a number of electric appliances, such as blenders, toaster-ovens, mixers or coffee makers, try

Safety Glass Required In Michigan

As of July 1 this year, 29 states had passed regulations requiring the use of safety glass in patio doors, shower enclosures, storm doors, and any other potentially hazardous locations of glass in the home.

Statistics on the high incidence of annual home accidents that could have been prevented if safety glass was used triggered the legislation.

The 29 states with such legislation include: California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and West Virginia.

In addition, approximately 17 states have a model safety glazing law on their state legislatures' agenda.

If these bills are passed, almost all of the 50 states would require safety glazing to help deter home injuries.

New construction obviously must conform to the states' legislation. But the emphasis of safety glazing legislation is also applied to the replacement of ordinary annealed glass in hazardous locations in existing homes.

Safety glazing laws are not meant to restrict the builder or place undue cost on the homeowner, but to create a safe environment for U.S. families and their friends.

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For handy year-round advice on easy wood finishing—a 16-page booklet "Tips on Wood Finishing," is available. For a free copy, write Minwax Company, Inc., Dept. AG, 72 Oak Street, Clinton, N.J. 07014.

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