



# A SEASON FOR SHARING IN FIRE SAFETY



Put together a gift basket containing one or more of the following items:



- A-B-C Fire Extinguisher
- Battery Operated Weather Radio
- Cellular Phone
- First Aid Kit
- Flashlight and Batteries or Light Sticks
- Second Floor Escape Ladder
- Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Detectors and Batteries

## HOLIDAY LIGHT SAFETY



- Maintain & inspect all holiday lights for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets and excessive kinking or wear before use.
- Only use lighting that is approved by a testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories.
- Do not overload electrical outlets and link no more than three light strands together. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Make sure to periodically check the wires - they should not be warm to the touch.
- Shut off all lights prior to leaving your home or going to bed.
- Never run an extension cord under carpeting.
- When trying to illuminate outdoor holiday lights and decorations, use only extension cords labeled for outdoor use.

## DECORATION SAFETY



- Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials for decorations and keep them away from heat sources.
- Never use lighted candles on or near a tree, evergreens or furnishings such as drapes. Extinguish all candles prior to going to bed or leaving home. Consider using a battery operated light instead.
- In homes with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable.
- Keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children.
- Avoid decorations that resemble candy or food. This may tempt a young child to try eating it.
- Remove all wrapping papers, bags, paper, ribbons and bows after gifts are opened. These items can pose suffocation and choking hazards to a small child.
- Never place wrapping paper into a fireplace; it can result in a very large fire, throwing off dangerous sparks and embers, resulting in a chimney fire.
- If you buy a real tree, make a fresh cut an inch from the bottom; this will help the tree drink.
- Make sure your tree stand holds plenty of water, and don't let it run out.
- Only buy an artificial tree, if it is fire-retardant.

## TOY SAFETY



- Toys have been recalled due to various safety issues. To check whether a toy is unsafe or to report a toy-related injury, call the Consumer Product Safety Commission at 800-638-2772 or visit its website at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).
- Select toys to suit the age, abilities, skills and interest level of the intended child. Toys too advanced may pose safety hazards for younger children.
- Before allowing your child to play with a toy that he has received as a gift, read the instructions carefully.
- To prevent both burns and electrical shocks, don't give young children (under age ten) a toy that must be plugged into an electrical outlet. Instead, buy toys that are battery-operated.
- Children under age three can choke on small parts contained in toys or games. Toys for children under age three cannot have parts less than 1 1/4 inches in diameter and 2 1/4 inches long.

**HAVE SAFE & ENJOYABLE HOLIDAY SEASON!!!**

Brought to you by the **West Paterson Volunteer Fire Department**

