Put a FREEZE on Winter Holiday Fires

It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

| More than half of the home decoration fires in December are started by candles. |
| More than 1/3 of home decoration fires are started by candles. |
| The top 3 days for home candle fires are **Christmas Day, New Year's Day** and **New Year's Eve.** |

- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns.
- Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are dangerous. On average, **1 of every 52** reported home Christmas tree fires resulted in death.
- A heat source too close to the Christmas tree causes **1 in every 4** winter fires.

- Read manufacturer’s instructions for the number of light strands to connect.
- Make sure your tree is **at least 3 feet away** from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits.
- Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.

For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov/winter](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/winter) and [www.nfpa.org/winter](http://www.nfpa.org/winter).