



HOLIDAY MESSAGE 2016

From the Mine Hill Township Fire Marshall

Winter Holiday

Winter holidays are a time for family and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.



Fireproof Your Christmas Tree

Does one medium size tree.
Mix together:
9 oz. Borax
11 oz. Boric Acid
11 oz. Epsom salts
2 gallons water
Pour mixture evenly over tree
(while tree is on its side) from
top to bottom- slowly rotate
tree repeating above

FACTS

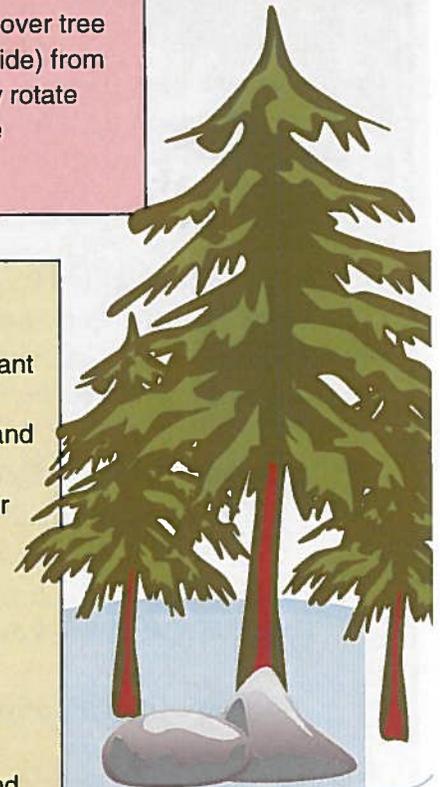
! **Two of every five** home decoration fires are started by candles.

! **Nearly half** of holiday decorations fires happen because decorations are too close to a heat source.



HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE OF THE GREATEST HAZARDS TO LIFE THAT EXIST IN A BUILDING FIRE OF ANY MAGNITUDE IS THE LACK OF SUFFICIENT OXYGEN.

Oxygen not only is essential for human life, but also is the key to supporting the life of a fire. When fire & humans compete for the limited amount of oxygen within a burning building, FIRE ALWAYS WINS!

Most fatalities are caused because of this. It is often referred to as smoke inhalation, but put in simpler terms, it is death by suffocation!

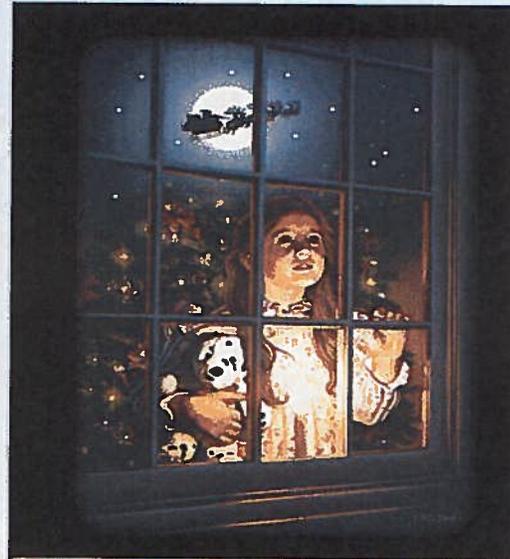
The dangers of oxygen displacement in a burning building as well as other hazards including the presence of toxic gases, the fire itself, the risk of explosion, building collapse, and electrocution make reentering a burning structure a dangerous, if not deadly proposition.

We the members of the Fire Service are requesting that everyone install & maintain smoke detectors and practice fire escape plans in your homes and apartments.

Do your part to "Get out & Stay out" before firefighters have to come in!

**Help us to help you.
Your Life means everything to us!**

Fire Marshal Thomas Trapasso



Blow Out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn Off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.



Holiday Entertaining

- ☞ **Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan**
- ☞ **Keep children and pets away from lit candles**
- ☞ **Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.**
- ☞ **Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.**
- ☞ **Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smoker to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.**
- ☞ **Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.**



A Fright Before Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house,
Not a light was left burning, the fuse had burned out.
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
But the wiring was in a sad state of repair.

The circuits already had been way overloaded,
So with the Christmas lights added the fuse just exploded.
These folks were aware of the sad wiring condition,
But they still neglected to call an electrician.

In order to have lights for good old St. Nick,
A Penny was put behind the fuse really quick.
Then off to their beds the whole family had hurried.
The lights were left burning, so they weren't worried.

They lay asleep dreaming of the day ahead,
While the wiring began to glow a dull red.
Soon into the night there came such a clatter,
They all jumped out of their beds to see what was the matter.

They peered through the window expecting Santa on high,
And to their surprise they all saw sparks in the sky.
Improper wiring had set the whole house a flame,
So Christmas for these folks would be nothing but pain.

The penny that had taken place on the fuse,
Is a practice that people should never use.
And big fuses too can be just as bad,
Because they take away protection that should be had.

So as Christmas approaches with the joy that it brings,
Of children and family, of toys, and of things.
Make sure of your wiring and do it quick,
So instead of a fire, you can welcome St. Nick.

**Wishing You and Your Family
A Happy and Fire Safe Holiday Season
Because Your Life Means Everything to Us.**

FIRES WON'T START - IF YOU DO YOUR PART

