



Winter Holiday Safety

The winter holiday season is here. As we decorate, prepare food and travel to see friends and family think about how to make this holiday season safer for you and those around you.

Decorating Safely

- Keep poisonous plants out of the reach of children and pets.
- Ensure tree has a stable base.
- Choose artificial greens that are labeled fire resistant.
- Water trees and plants to keep hydrated.
- Inspect string lights for fraying, bare spots, gaps in insulation and excessive kinks in wires.
- Turn off lights and decorations when not in use.
- Use an appropriate ladder for higher decorating.

Potluck Safety

- Prepare meals safely by washing hands, utensils, sinks and any other items that touch raw meats.
- Reheat hot foods to at least 165° F.
- Keep cold foods below 40° F.
- Ensure foods are only at room temperature for two hours or less.

Common Fire Starters

- Burning candles left unattended.
- Candles in reach of children.
- Candles on unstable surfaces.
- Candles near trees, curtains and flammables.
- Burning wrapping paper, wreaths or flocked trees in the fireplace
- Chimney soot buildup.
- Fryers used with frozen turkeys or too much oil.



Resources

[NSC: Holiday Safety](#) [USDA: Holiday Parties](#) [CDC: Holiday Safety](#) [CPSC: Toy Safety](#)

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Don't learn safety by accident