



# *20th Fighter Wing*



## *Holiday Safety Checklist*



*TSgt Dustin Hayden*

*20 FW/SEG*

*18 Nov 11*



# *Your Checklist*

---



- **Christmas Tree**
- **Decorative Lights**
- **Candles**
- **Fireplace**
- **Stress**
- **Shopping**
- **Slips, Trips, and Falls**
- **Winter Sports**
- **Fatal Four**
- **Holiday Parties**



# Christmas Tree



- Artificial or Live Tree?
- Many artificial trees are fire resistant. If you buy one, look for a statement specifying this protection.
- Live fresh tree will stay green longer and be less of a fire hazard than a dry tree.



# Christmas Tree



- Fresh needles are hard to pull from branches
- When bent between your fingers, fresh needles do not break
- The trunk of a fresh tree is sticky with resin
- A shower of falling needles shows that the tree is too dry



# Christmas Tree



- Place trees away from fireplaces, radiators, and other heat sources
- Keep the stand filled with water while the tree is indoors
- Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways
- Keep a fire extinguisher handy in the tree area, and *remove the tree promptly if it becomes dry*



# Decorative Lights



- Inside or outside, use only lights that have been tested for safety
- Identify these by the label from an independent testing laboratory
- Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Discard damaged sets or repair them before using



# Decorative Lights



- Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord
- Turn off all lights on trees and other decorations when you go to bed or leave the house



# Candles



- The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) found residential fires sparked by candles are twice as likely to occur in December than any other month in the year
- According to the National Fire Protection Agency, candle fires account for 2.4% of all fires and result in 6% of total injuries from fires and 3% of all fatalities from fires



# *Candles*



- Never leave burning candles unattended
- Place candles well away from curtains, bedding and other flammable materials
- Keep candles away from table decorations, trees and other greenery
- Don't place lighted candles in windows



# Fireplace



- Before lighting any fire, remove all greens, boughs, papers, and other decorations from the fireplace area
- Check to see that the flue is open
- Before closing the flue, be sure that the fire is out completely



# Fireplace



- Have your chimney inspected at least once a year and cleaned if necessary
- Install at least one carbon monoxide detector and a smoke detector in your home
- Deposit ashes in a metal container and remove from the home because they may rekindle



# Stress



- Many mishaps occur when individuals are stressed so make a plan
- Some examples of making good plans to enjoy the holidays and help prevent stress include:
  - Stick to your budget
  - Make time for yourself
  - Eat healthy food and stick to your exercise routine
  - [www.stress.about.com](http://www.stress.about.com)



# Shopping



- Avoid carrying large packages that block your vision
- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible
- Always park in well lit areas



# Slips, Trips, and Falls



- Winter holidays are no time to find yourself nursing broken limbs and sprained ankles!
- If you find yourself attempting to navigate slippery sidewalks, remember to walk like a penguin!
- Clean up spills and wet floors as soon as practical
- Make sure stairways are well lit, clear of obstructions, and use the handrail



# Winter Sports



- Skiing, snowmobiling, snowboarding, etc.
- Have a good time without the possible lumps and bumps from injuries or mishaps
  - Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
  - Dress Appropriately
  - Don't exceed your limits and boundaries
  - Have a buddy or be with a group of people



# Fatal Four



- Get a good night's sleep before starting on the road
- Drinking and Driving
- SLOW DOWN!! Speeding is contributing a factor in 33% of all fatal crashes
- ALWAYS BUCKLE UP!!!!



# *Holiday Parties*



- Find out how guests will be going home from your party and be prepared to take away car keys
- Serving food with drinks and providing non-alcoholic beverages will help people stay sober as well
- Promote the use of designated drivers and encourage guests to leave their cars at home and take public transportation, cabs, or walk



# Your Checklist



- Christmas Tree
- Decorative Lights
- Candles
- Fireplace
- Stress
- Shopping
- Slips, Trips, and Falls
- Winter Sports
- Fatal Four
- Holiday Parties



# 20th Fighter Wing Safety Office



TO



Have a Safe &  
Happy Holiday  
Season!

