

Helpful hints to keep your home safe this holiday season:

- Use power strips with surge protectors instead of extension cords
- Use decorative lights that bear the label of an independent testing lab
- Replace any worn or damaged strings of lights
- Always unplug lights when leaving or going to bed
- Keep live Christmas trees watered
- Promptly remove dried Christmas trees and store them away from your home until you can dispose of them
- Make sure your artificial tree is flame retardant
- Keep trees away from fireplaces
- Put candles securely in non-tip holders and keep them away from Christmas trees, decorations, curtains and other combustibles
- Never leave candles unattended or within the reach of children or pets
- Keep space heaters at least three feet from anything that can burn, including walls, and always shut them off when leaving or going to bed
- Never burn wrapping materials in your fireplace
- Make sure you have working smoke detectors on every floor of your home. Test them to be sure