

The Sally Taylor Insurance Group

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Sally's Blog

Prepare for a safe holiday season

The Christmas tree lot is full, stores are packed with merchandise, and the malls are streaming holiday music. The holiday season has arrived. Homes up and down the street are decorated in lights, and Christmas trees and candles are popping up in living room windows.

Holiday lights are a favorite tradition, but they carry the added risk of electrical overload. Be aware that elaborate outdoor displays can stress the electrical system and trip your circuit breaker. The lights on Santa and his reindeer could go out, along with your hair dryer and toaster.



The holiday season is also one of the most dangerous times of the year for household fires. Follow these safety tips to protect your family from fire during the holiday season:

Take a pot holder with you when you leave the kitchen as a reminder that food is on the stove. Cooking is the top cause of holiday fires, according to the US Fire Association. The most common culprit is the distracted cook who leaves food unattended. Keep a fire extinguisher nearby, and working smoke detectors.

Maintain at least 12 inches between a burning candle and anything that's flammable— especially the Christmas tree. Set candles on a sturdy base. Before bed, walk through the house to make sure all candles are extinguished.

Buy a fresh Christmas tree with intact needles, get a fresh cut on the trunk, and water it daily. Keep the tree away from the fireplace or radiator, and out of traffic patterns. Take the tree down after the holidays, before it gets too dry.

Throw away lights with frayed or cracked wires or broken sockets. Don't run more than three strings of lights end to end.

Keep matches and lighters out of kids' reach. The incidence of blazes caused by children playing with fire goes up significantly during the holidays.

Screen the fireplace to prevent embers from popping out on the floor or carpet. **Do not burn wrapping paper in the fireplace!**

All of us at Sally Taylor Insurance Group wish you and yours a joyous and safe holiday season.

Questions? I've got answers. (303) 768-0000

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