

# 'Tis the season for safety!

**CANDLES** -- On average, 20 home candle fires are reported per day, peaking in December and January. . . Look for alternatives!\*

## **LIGHTS & TREES**

- Check for broken or frayed cords or lights before you string.
- Use lights with UL label. Hook 3 strings together, max.
- Artificial tree? Check for "Flame Resistant" label.
- Buy LED holiday lights – they last longer and are safer.
- Be careful not to push a staple or drive a nail through cord.
- Unplug lights and outdoor lighting before leaving the house or going to bed.

## **CORDS & OUTLETS**

- Extension cords are meant for temporary use. They carry power even when the appliance or lights are turned off so unplug and store when you're done using them.
- Use the right size cords and don't overload outlets!
- Outdoors, use a cord labeled "Outdoor/Exterior."
- Outdoors, use a 3-prong extension cord and plug into a grounded outlet (GFI outlet).
- Outdoors, keep cords out of water including sprinklers; warn your gardeners!
- Indoors, uncoil extension cords completely before using.
- Never to use an extension cord with a space heater.
- Never run extension cords under rugs.
- Does your cord feel hot? Something's wrong. Stop using it.