

Keeping Your Family Safe Preventing House Fires

Unfortunately, house fires are all too common. It seems as if everyday, there is a story on the news about another family who has lost everything. Here are some invaluable tips to keep your family safe.

CLOTHES DRYERS- We all have them, but are you aware they are the number one cause of house fires in the United States.

- ❖ Never store anything on top of your dryer
- ❖ Never leave your house or go to bed with your dryer running
- ❖ Use metal connectors to vent your dryer to the wall
- ❖ Always have your dryer vent cleaned out at least annually (warning signs of a clogged vent are it takes several cycles to dry your clothes, clothes feel "hotter" than normal at the end of the cycle, the outside flap is not moving when your dryer is running)

CANDLES- A popular decorative item that fill many of our homes

- ❖ Always remain in the room with a burning candle
- ❖ Always make sure a lit candle is out of a child's reach
- ❖ Never go to bed with a candle burning in your home
- ❖ Exchange "real" candles with new "flickering" electric votives in decorative items

ELECTRICAL CORDS- With the holidays right around the corner, be sure to remember these safety tips

- ❖ Never overload an electrical outlet or an extension cord
- ❖ Use appropriate cords made specifically for indoor or outdoor use
- ❖ Make sure all cords and plugs are in good working order with no exposed wires

*****ALWAYS REMEMBER TO TEST YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS MONTHLY AND REPLACE BATTERIES AS NEEDED*****

Although these are just a few reminders, they are useful to all of us in keeping our families safe and preventing house fires.

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