



## HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY TIPS



- ✧ If you have a live Christmas tree in your house be sure it has been freshly cut (needles should be green and hard to pull back from branches, trunk should be sticky to the touch).
- ✧ Do not place your tree too close to a heating source (fireplace or heat vent) because this will cause the tree to dry out and be easier to ignite by a heating source.
- ✧ Do not put your tree up too early or leave it up for too long (two weeks). Be sure to keep the stand filled with water at all times.
- ✧ When discarding your tree DO NOT put it in the fireplace. Dispose of it in a recycling center or have your community pick-up service haul it away.
- ✧ When putting up holiday lights, make sure there are no frayed wires, cracked sockets, or excessive kinking before you put them up.
- ✧ DO NOT overload electrical outlets!
- ✧ DO NOT leave lights on unattended. Turn the lights off when you go to sleep.
- ✧ All decorations should be nonflammable or flame-retardant. Place all decorations away from heat sources (fireplace or heat vent).
- ✧ Be sure that when using an artificial Christmas tree that it is flame-retardant.
- ✧ NEVER place wrapping paper in the fire place!
- ✧ When using lit candles place them in a safe, out of reach of small children. They should be on stable candle holders so they will not fall over easily. DO NOT leave the house with candles burning.
- ✧ DO NOT put lit candles on a Christmas tree! DO NOT go near a Christmas tree with an open flame (candles, lighters, or matches).
- ✧ Make sure to always have working smoke detectors on all levels of your household and be sure to check them monthly!

Happy Holidays from the Richmond Fire Department!!



*Richmond*  
**FIRE / RESCUE**

