

Fire Prevention – Christmas Tree & Decoration Safety

CHRISTMAS TREES

- If using live trees:
 - Saw trunk 1 inch above original cut
 - Freshly cut
 - Needles should be soft and springy
 - Use a sturdy, large-capacity stand
 - Water daily
 - Keep open flames 5 feet away
 - Remove if water no longer absorbs
 - Display no more than 15 days
 - Affix tag with date of placement and by whom
 - Maintain 10 feet between trees
 - Avoid placing near heating ducts, radiators etc.



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LIGHTS

- Position trees/decorations near outlets to avoid creating trip hazards
- Check for cuts, frays or exposed wires
- If defects found, cut plug and discard
- Use if approved and labeled by a nationally recognized testing laboratory
- Turn off when building is vacant
- Avoid staples or nails to secure
- Follow manufacturer's instructions, but avoid linking more than 3 strands
- Avoid overloading outlets and extension cords



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CANDLES

- Use carefully and sparingly (LED lights recommended)
- Place in sturdy, non-combustible candleholders large enough to collect wax
- Place out of falling distance from live or artificial Christmas trees, wreaths or decorations
- Extinguish when leaving the building

