

# WISHES FOR A HAPPY & SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON

## From The Capitol Heights Volunteer Fire Department Part Of The Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department

During the holiday season there are over 1,200 fires and 190 fire injuries associated with improper holiday tree and candle care.\*

### FUNCTIONING SMOKE ALARMS SAVES LIVES

— this device will alert you and loved ones if there is fire in your home. Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, near bedrooms. If a fire should occur during the night, the alarm will wake you up and you can get out safely. Once you are out of your house, **STAY OUT** and **MEET AT A DESIGNATED MEETING SPOT**.

You can purchase a smoke alarm at any hardware store. If you are unsure about where to find a smoke alarm or can not afford one call 301-864-SAFE

Clean your smoke detector regularly with a vacuum and replace your batteries at least twice a year. **CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERY.** If your smoke alarm is "hard wired" and runs by the electricity in your home, test your alarm once a month.

**DO NOT DISABLE THE SMOKE ALARM** if it goes off when you are cooking.

\*Information by United States Fire Administration

### HOLIDAY DECORATION SAFETY

- Choose a fresh Christmas tree. Water your tree frequently to keep tree from drying out.
- Set up your tree away from exits, fireplaces, and heat sources.
- If you use an artificial tree, be sure that it is labeled as being flame-retardant.
- Be sure all decorative lights, bear the label of an independent testing laboratory.
- Do not use lights that have damaged cords or have loose connections.
- Do not overload outlets.
- Do not run extension cords under carpets, across doorways, on or under heaters.
- Unplug all decorative lights before leaving home or going to bed.

### USE CARE WHEN BURNING CANDLES

- Do not burn candles near flammable articles.
- Never put candles in windows or near exits.
- Keep candles out the reach of children.
- Extinguish candles after use.
- **DO NOT LEAVE CANDLES UNATTENDED OR BURNING WHILE YOU SLEEP**

### HEATING YOUR HOME WITH A SPACE HEATER

- As with any electrical appliance, make sure that your heater is UL listed. This information is on the unit .
- **NEVER** use an appliance with a damaged cord.
- Place your heater on a hard floor and allow 3 feet of space around **ALL** sides.
- Keep the heater away from draperies, furniture and other flammable materials.
- Place heater somewhere where it will not tipped over.
- Keep children and pets away from the heater.

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