



SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM
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SIP TIP: CHRISTMAS SAFETY TIPS & GENERAL WINTER TIPS TOO!

- Consider an artificial tree, they are generally fire retardant. If you DO get a real tree, keep it well-watered!
- Do NOT leave tree lights burning when you go out, even if it is "just for a few minutes"!!
- If you light Christmas candles, watch them closely. Do not burn candles for more than the time recommended on packaging. If no time frame given, do not burn them more than 3-4 hours, EVEN WHILE ATTENDED! Don't EVER leave the house while candles are lit--even if it's just "for a few minutes". Again common sense. These tips apply for candle use year round, NOT just Christmas! Even though tinsel is generally safe, keep it away from tree lights and candles.
- Remember your children and pets!
 - Keep a close eye on children AND pets, the holidays are full of a lot of things both can eat causing distress or death. Poinsettias are known to be poisonous to humans and animals, so keep them well out-of-reach, or avoid having them altogether. If you have pets, consider NOT putting up a tree. Avoid tinsel--animals are more likely than children to eat tinsel, and harder to keep track of!
 - If you have young children, make sure you keep the tree securely anchored.
 - Keep Decorations at least 6 inches ABOVE the child's reach.
 - Avoid using tinsel. It can fall and a curious child may well eat it. This can cause anything from mild distress to death!!
- Do NOT set the tree up near a fireplace OR space/kerosene/gas heaters!!
- Keep any ribbons on gifts and tree ornaments shorter than 7 inches. A child could wrap a longer strand of ribbon around her neck and choke.



- Inspect wrapped gifts for small decorations, such as candy canes, gingerbread men, or mistletoe berries, all of which are choking hazards.
- Store any scissors or sharp objects, that are used for wrapping, out of your child's reach.
- Never burn wrapping paper in the fireplace--it could start a flash fire.

WINTER SAFETY

Most of the tips above apply. Do NOT leave candles, heaters, or fireplaces lit if you go out.

- If using a gas, propane, or kerosene heater, make sure you have a working CO (carbon monoxide) Detector.
- Avoid mittens with strings for children, these can cause choking! It's easier to replace a mitten than a child!!
- Watch children (and pets too!) closely around any space heater, or fireplace. DO NOT leave a child (or pet) unattended around one!! A few seconds may change your whole life!!
- When in doubt, take the safe route! If you suspect your child or pet has eaten something she/he shouldn't have, call 911 or your veterinarian IMMEDIATELY!! Even if you're not sure, be safe!!

HAVE AN ENJOYABLE AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON