



Village of Scarsdale

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Contact: Scarsdale Fire Department
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Fire Safety Tips for the Holiday Season

The Officers and Members of the Scarsdale Fire Department would like to extend our heartfelt wishes of a very happy and healthy holiday season to all Scarsdale residents, businesses, and organizations. As you begin to navigate this very exciting and busy time of year, we would like to remind you of some holiday fire safety tips:

- Follow the manufacturer's instruction on how to use tree lights. Any string lights with worn, frayed or broken cords or loose bulb connections should not be used.
- Never use electric lights on a metal tree.
- Unplug Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to sleep.
- Never use lit candles to decorate a tree.
- If you use candles to decorate a room, make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be easily knocked over. Never leave a burning candle unattended.
- All holiday decorations should be nonflammable or flame-retardant; place them away from heat vents.
- Never put wrapping paper in a fireplace, it can throw off dangerous sparks and produce intense flames that can cause a chimney fire.
- Make sure that the lights and decorations you buy have the Underwriters Laboratories Certification Mark.
- Keep freshly cut Christmas trees away from heat sources, sparks and open flames.
- Check and replace worn or damaged light sets or wires.
- Don't overload electrical outlets. Avoid the use of extension cords whenever possible and if you do use them make sure they are heavy enough to handle the load they are being used for. Never run electrical cords under carpets, this can damage them and cause a fire.
- Use care when operating portable heaters, wood stoves and fire places. Make sure paper and other combustible materials are kept at least 3' from these heating appliances.

Should you need any assistance or require any additional safety information, please contact the Scarsdale Fire Department at 914-722-1215.

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