



At the Vegreville Fire Services, we're committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. Fire safety is a critical part of that commitment, and it starts with being informed.

Below, you'll find key tips and tricks to help keep your home and family safe from fire:

Christmas Tree Safety

As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.

- **Picking the tree:** Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.
- **Placing the tree:** Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- **Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.**
- **Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.**
- **Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.**

Lighting The Tree:

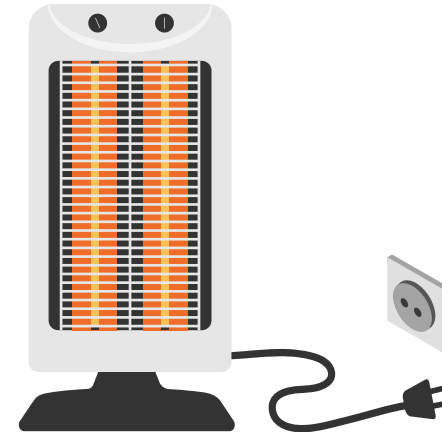
- **Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.**
- **Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read the manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.**
- **Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.**
- **Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.**



Electric Portable Space Heater Safety

When the weather turns cold, it can bring a chill into our homes. Portable space heaters have become a popular way to supplement central heating or heat one room. If you plan to use portable electric space heaters, make sure to follow these tips and recommendations.

- **Purchase a heater with the seal of a qualified testing laboratory.**
- **Keep the heater at least 3 feet (1 metre) away from anything that can burn, including people.**
- **Choose a heater with a thermostat and overheat protection.**
- **Place the heater on a solid, flat surface.**
- **Make sure your heater has an auto shut-off to turn the heater off if it tips over.**
- **Keep space heaters out of the way of foot traffic. Never block an exit.**
- **Keep children away from the space heater.**
- **Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet. Never use an extension cord.**
- **Space heaters should be turned off and unplugged when you leave the room or go to bed.**



**PUBLIC
EDUCATION**

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