

Safety Fact Sheet



The Utah Safety Council cares about your safety outside of the work setting. We offer resources that keep you and your loved ones safe at home, at play and on the go.

CANDLE SAFETY DURING THE HOLIDAYS

The top three days for fires caused by home candles are Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day, according to a 2013 report from the National Fire Protection Association. Twelve percent of home candle fires occur in December, according to the report.

Increased use of candles combined with an increase in the amount of combustible, seasonal decorations used in many homes for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza and other winter holidays means more risk for fire.

To prevent fire in your home:

- Never leave burning candles unattended; blow them out when you leave a room.
- Keep candles out of the reach of children.
- Never sleep in a room with a lit candle and extinguish all candles before going to sleep.
- Make sure candles are on stable surfaces, where they can't easily be knocked over.
- Don't burn candles near trees, curtains or any other flammable items.
- Don't burn trees, wreaths or wrapping paper in the fireplace.
- Have your chimney and fireplaces cleaned and checked at least once a year.

About 2,200 deaths were caused by fires, burns and other fire-related injuries in 2013, according to a report produced by the National Safety Council.