Seasonal Safety Tips for a Fire-Safe Holiday

The holiday season is a time for families and friends to get together, but it can also mean a greater risk for fire. With December festivities upon us, the three North Shore Fire Departments encourage residents and businesses to consider the following safety tips to ensure a happy and safe holiday season.

Candles
Candle related fires are a year-round concern in BC homes. These concerns escalate during the winter holidays. Keep your home safe this holiday season by using care and caution with candles.

- Always monitor open flames and candles, especially if children or pets are present
- Keep candles away from curtains, decorations, clothing, windows and drafts
- Cut candle wicks short to prevent high flame
- Extinguish all candles when leaving the room

Decorations
- Choose decorations that are flame resistant or retardant
- Replace any strings of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged
- Turn off light strings before leaving a room or going to bed

Smoke Alarms
Smoke alarms give your family an early warning of smoke and fire. Plan and practice your home fire escape plan to ensure a fire-safe holiday for your family and guests. Consider giving the life-saving gift of a smoke alarm this holiday season.

Carbon Monoxide Safety
Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels burn incompletely. A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a long period of time or by a large amount of CO over a short period of time.

- Install a CO detector in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home.
- Never operate a vehicle, lawnmower or other gasoline-powered tool inside a garage, even with the garage doors open.
- Have a qualified technician inspect chimneys and vents on an annual basis.

Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season.

City of North Vancouver  District of West Vancouver  District of North Vancouver
www.cnv.org/fire  www.westvancouver.ca/fire

http://www.cnv.org/careerswww.dnv.org/fire

For more information contact the Communications Departments at: