



# LET'S TALK FIRE SAFETY

Valdosta Fire Department

December 2016

Volume 1, Issue 10

## Christmas Safety

### Facts:

- Electrical distribution or lighting equipment was involved in 38% of home Christmas tree fires.
- One-fifth (20%) of the decoration fires started in the kitchen. One out of six (17%) started in the living room, family room or den.
- The top three days for home candle fires were Christmas, New Year's Day, and Christmas Eve.
- On average, one of every 31 reported home fires that began with a Christmas tree resulted in a death, compared to an average of one death per 144 total reported home fires.

### Local Statistics

In 2015, VFD responded to 10 calls on Christmas Day of which 4 of the calls were fire alarm activations.

### Safety Tips

1. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
2. Keep lit candles away from decorations & other things that burn.
3. Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.

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### Always Remember

Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.

Be sure to add water daily to the tree stand if you are using a live tree.

Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.

Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

### National Fire Protection Association

<http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/by-topic/wildfire-and-seasonal-fires/winter-holiday-safety>



## The Valdosta Fire Department Would Like to Wish Everyone a Happy Holiday Season

Did you know that if a fire starts in your home, you may only have two minutes to escape? Do you have a home fire escape plan? Do you conduct regular home fire drills. For more information regarding fire safety, please contact Tangela Rowe at 229.333.1835 .

Make sure that your smoke alarms are working by testing them once a month. Replace the batteries twice a year and replace the smoke alarm unit once every ten years or according to manufacturer suggestions.

Have a fire safety question you would like for the Fire Department to answer, please contact Tangela Rowe at 229-333-1835 or you can send an email [valdostafire@valdostacity.org](mailto:valdostafire@valdostacity.org)

### Fire Safety Word Search

HDUIEIDJBCDBJJNLKCJSCUJLS  
SBHSANTASHELPERSJEIFUNDIL  
CBYDUCCHRISTMASSPIRITGDJ  
SBDCHHELPINGOTHERSIBJAJUD  
FJDKJKHUIHIEHJNJKIHOIO  
FSYEHAPPYHOLIDAYSIIJMMK  
JSJDHJCIUHEOEHIJDKLKLKIJL  
SDYEFDECORATIONSIFNLEOPD  
SJDJDNQNLIDJSILENTNIGHTI

### Fire Safety Quiz

Ten percent of decoration fires are intentional.

- A. True
- B. False

One-fifth of decoration fires occurred in \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. July
- B. September
- C. December
- D. January



Freddie D. Broome, Fire Chief