

# Holiday Fire Safety Checklist for Homeowners

## 1. INSPECT HOLIDAY LIGHTS

- Check cords for frays, cracks, or exposed wires, and replace any damaged strings.
- Make sure sockets are intact with no broken or missing bulbs.
- Use LED lights instead of traditional lights to reduce heat and fire risk.
- Position lights away from flammable materials like curtains or furniture.
- Unplug lights before leaving home or going to bed.

## 2. SAFETY USE CANDLES

- Place candles on stable, heat-resistant surfaces, away from flammable materials like curtains, bedding, or holiday decorations.
- Use battery-operated candles whenever possible.
- Never leave candles burning unattended, especially around pets or children.

### 3. CHRISTMAS TREE PRECAUTIONS

- Position the tree at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators, or space heaters.
- Keep live trees watered daily to prevent them from drying out.
- Avoid decorating with real, lit candles on or around the tree.

### 4. TEST SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS

- Test all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors monthly.
- Replace batteries as needed and ensure detectors are installed on every level of the home.

### 5. FIREPLACE SAFETY

- Schedule a professional cleaning for the chimney to remove creosote buildup.
- Always use a screen to prevent sparks from escaping.
- Dispose of ashes in a metal container kept outside, away from any flammable surfaces.

### 6. FIRE INSURANCE AND CODE COMPLIANCE

- Position the tree at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators, or space heaters.
- Keep live trees watered daily to prevent them from drying out.
- Avoid decorating with real, lit candles on or around the tree.