## PROTECTING YOUR FAMILY THIS WINTER HEATING SEASON

**Over half** of all home heating fires occur in December, January, and February. Additionally, **\$2 billion** in property loss occurs from winter home fires.

If you're concerned about fire safety this winter, complete this simple checklist to ensure you have a safe holiday season.



## QUICK CHECKS

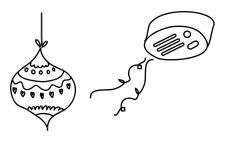
Have you tested your smoke alarms?

- Have you tested your carbon monoxide alarms?
- Have you gotten your furnace professionally inspected?
- Have you gotten your chimney professionally cleaned and inspected?
- Have you checked your appliances for worn or damaged cords?
  - Have you checked your dryer exhaust vent for lint buildup?
  - Do you have a covered metal container ready to dispose of cooled ashes?

## **TOO HOT TO HANDLE**

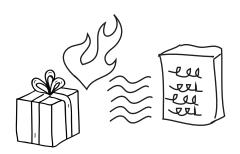
Do your portable space heaters have an automatic shutoff? Is there at least three feet of space between space heaters and

- Do you turn space heaters off overnight or when unattended?
- Are your space heaters plugged directly into an outlet?
- Do your children know to stay 3 feet away from any space heater?
- Do you always use a fire guard in front of a burning fire?



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60% of fire deaths result from fires in homes without working smoke alarms.



30% of residential heating fires occur because the heat source is too close to things that can burn.



Keeping a fire hydrant free of snow can give your local fire department precious minutes when fighting a home fire.



other objects?

If there's a fire hydrant near your home, are you committed to keeping it free of snow?

- Have you made and practiced a fire escape plan?
- Do you have a fire extinguisher handy?
- Do your children know how to dial 911?
- Are your house numbers easily visible?
- Have you packed an emergency supply kit in your home?