

Safety Doesn't Take the Holidays Off!

Parents, during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, Underwriters Laboratories (UL) and Health World offer these safety tips.

Christmas Tree:

- Regularly check your tree for fresh, green needles. Trees that have dried out over several weeks burn faster than fresher, well-watered ones. Remember to keep your tree watered at all times.
- Keep your tree at least 3 feet from fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, heating vents and other sources of heat. Don't place the tree where it blocks an exit.

Lighting:

- Look for the UL Mark on light strings, electrical decorations and extension cords. The UL Mark means that UL engineers have tested representative samples of the product for foreseeable safety hazards such as fire and electric shock.
- Make sure outside lights, decorations and extension cords are rated for outside use. Lights intended for indoor-only use have a green holographic UL Mark. Lights for indoor and outdoor have a red holographic UL Mark.
- Don't overload extension cords by plugging in too many decorations.
- Turn off all electrical lights and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.
- Replace damaged light strings with energy-efficient LED lights.

Candles:

- Keep candles away from flammable materials such as decorations, paper, wreaths and boughs.
- Place in areas where candles cannot be knocked over by a person or pet.

