

Holiday Season Fire Safety

The 2020 holiday season is right around the corner—be fire smart!

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), in order, the top three days for home cooking fires are Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and the day before Thanksgiving. In 2018, U.S. fire department responded to over 1,600 home cooking fires on Thanksgiving Day alone! Unattended cooking is by far the leading contributor to home cooking fires.



Image from Bing Images

Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are dangerous. A small fire spreading from a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.

On average, 1 out of every 52 reported home Christmas tree fires resulted in death. Remember, artificial isn't necessarily better, either! It's easy for any tree, real or artificial, to catch fire if you overload electrical sockets with lights.

Both the NFPA and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have materials available with a number of helpful hints and reminders this holiday season. Do your part, be safe and fire smart!

<https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Seasonal-fire-causes/Thanksgiving>

<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/holiday.html>

<https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets/ChristmasTreeSafetyTips.pdf>

For additional information on the SMCX's services, please visit the SMCX-hosted website at: <https://www.smcx.org/>.