



TOWNSHIP OF WARMINSTER

Department of Emergency Management & Services

CANDLE FIRE FACTS

- Top three days for home candle fires: (NFPA)
 - ✓ **Christmas**
 - ✓ **New Year's Day**
 - ✓ **Christmas Eve**



- More than half (56%) of home candle fires occur when some form of combustible material is too close to the candle. (NFPA)
- Warminster Township Candle Fire Facts: (2013,2014, 2015)
 - ✓ **12%** of structure fires caused by candles
 - ✓ Average dollar loss = \$133,500
 - ✓ **Total dollar loss = \$801,000**

CANDLE SAFETY TIPS

- Always keep a burning candle within sight.
- Never burn a candle on or near anything that can ignite.
- Don't place burning candles where they might be knocked over by children or pets.
- Trim candlewicks to ¼ inch each time before burning. Long or crooked wicks cause uneven burning and dripping.
- Always use a candleholder specifically designed for candle use.
- Be sure the candleholder is placed on a stable, heat-resistant surface.
- Keep the wax pool free of wick trimmings, matches and debris at all times.
- Always burn candles in a well-ventilated room. Don't burn too many candles in a small room or in a "tight" home where air exchange is limited.
- Keep burning candles away from drafts, vents, and ceiling fans.
- Don't burn a candle all the way down.
- Never touch or move a burning candle when the wax is liquid.
- Place burning candles at least three inches apart. This ensures they won't melt one another, or create drafts that can cause the candles to flare-up.
- Never extinguish candles with water.
- Be very careful if using candles during a power outage. **Use battery lanterns instead**
- Make sure a candle is completely extinguished before leaving the room.
- Extinguish a candle if it flickers repeatedly, smokes, or the flame becomes too high. The candle isn't burning properly. Let it cool, trim the wick, check for drafts and then re-light.
- Never use a candle as a night light.
- Extinguish candles before falling asleep.