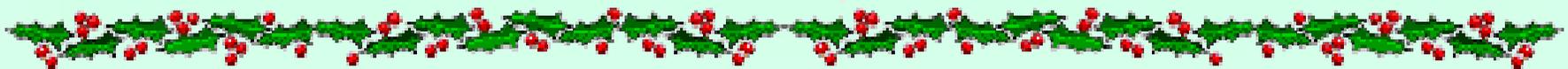




*Safety Tips For
Happy Holiday Festivities
At Home*



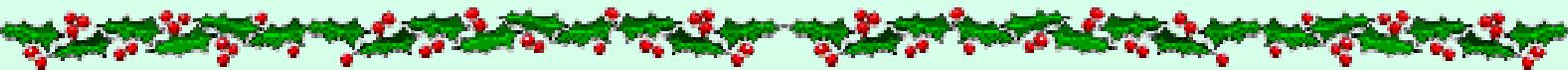


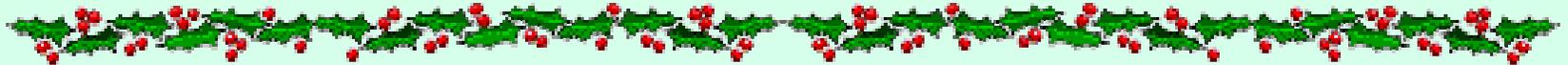
Planning for Holiday Safety: *Tie Up All Loose Ends*



- *Decorations are not used on a regular basis, and you may not recall problems from last year --inspect for damage or excessive wear and tear.*
- *More visitors in your home, especially children and the elderly, increases the risk of an accident occurring.*
- *If young guests are expected, child-proof your home.*
- *Hectic schedules and preoccupation with holiday events can distract you from needed safety precautions.*

Take time for safety!





Are You Checkin' the List... Checkin' It Twice?

Holiday Electrical Safety Checkpoints

- ✓ *Condition of electrical outlets and safety covers*
- ✓ *Condition of all electrical cords*
- ✓ *Extension cords properly rated for indoor & outdoor use*
- ✓ *Extension cords in series (piggy backed) do not exceed circuit or cord capacity*
- ✓ *Electric lights on metal decorations -- an electrocution hazard!*
- ✓ *GFCI protection for electrical decorations*



What's Cookin' In the Kitchen?



Hey, Good Lookin', Try These Kitchen Pointers...



- *Thaw meat properly to avoid food-borne illnesses.*
- *Don't leave pots and pans on the stove when you're finished with them.*
- *Keep pot handles pointed toward the center of the stove, so they won't be bumped by people passing through, or grabbed by curious children.*
- *Store and handle glassware and flatware carefully to avoid hand injury.*
- *Dishes not rated as dishwasher-safe may be damaged or lose protective coatings in automatic dishwashers -- hand wash them.*
- *Dishes not rated as microwave-safe may melt or break if microwaved.*

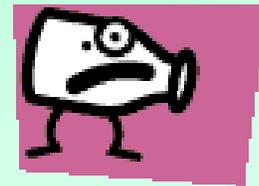




Kids and Holiday Cooking...

An UNPREDICTABLE Mix!

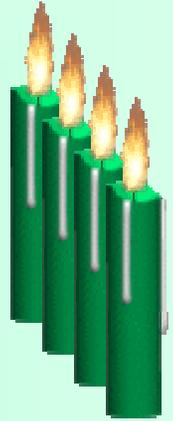
- *Children love to help in the kitchen, but adult supervision is essential for safety and holiday fun.*
- *Limit the number of people working in the kitchen at one time, especially children, so you can monitor the activity.*
- *Limit the number of kitchen tasks performed at one time.*
- *Assign children's cooking tasks based on age and motor skills.*
- *Teach food safety and hygiene as you work.*





Spotlight On

Dining Room Hazards...



- ☀ *Do flower arrangements include toxic materials?*
- ☀ *Have you placed lit candles well beyond the reach of children?*
- ☀ *Are sharp knives inaccessible to children?*
- ☀ *Are tablecloths secured against the pull of a toddler's hand?*
- ☀ *Have you removed all cracked or chipped tableware?*
- ☀ *Is the tabletop shielded from hot serving containers?*
- ☀ *Have you provided hand protection for passing containers of hot foods and beverages?*





Have A Holly, Jolly Living Room!



- *The living room may be the most decorated room in your home – take care not to create hazards.*
- *If you expect young guests or pets, place fragile or small ornaments and decorations well out of reach.*
- *Arrange screens or barriers to keep children and pets away from hot stoves and fireplaces in use.*
- *Limit access to matches, and fireplace and stove tools.*
- *Secure holiday rugs to prevent slip and trip hazards.*
- *Keep electrical cords and decorations out of walkways.*





Making Your Tree Tops!



- ✿ Placement of real and artificial trees in the room is important.
- ✿ Don't block exits or walkways – leave space for room traffic.
- ✿ Don't position tree close to stoves, fireplaces, or heat sources.
- ✿ Keep live trees fresh by watering regularly.
- ✿ Secure the tree to prevent toppling over.
- ✿ Keep fragile and hazardous ornaments too high for young children and pets to reach.
- ✿ Keep metal and paper ornaments away from lights and cords.
- ✿ Turn lights off when unattended.



Step Up To Holiday Safety



- *Check all stairways for tightly secured walking surfaces.*
- *Handrails must be firmly attached, and sturdy enough to bear the weight of elderly, physically challenged, and young people.*
- *Provide guests with adequate and continuous lighting for stairways.*
- *Promptly clean up spills and collected water near stairways.*
- *Keep steps clear of all toys and loose objects.*
- *Check outdoor steps for these and weather-related hazards.*



Decking Your Halls

With Holiday Greenery

- *Natural wreaths and garlands increase in fire risk as they age and dry out – water regularly to prevent a fire hazard.*
- *Synthetic and natural greenery may be made from a variety of materials – some may be toxic to children and pets.*
- *Install out of reach of children and pets.*
- *Greenery decorations may pose choking hazards for children.*
- *Keep a safe distance from open flames and heat sources.*





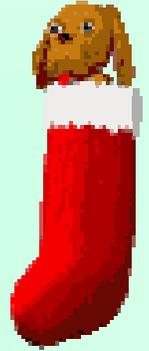
If Creatures Are Stirring In Your House, Remember...

- *Holiday decorations can be extremely dangerous for animals, too.*
- *Your pets may be fascinated by the decorations.*
- *Dangling strings, cords, sashes, flashing lights, and shiny tree decorations can be irresistible to house pets.*
- *Playful pets can knock trees and burning candles over.*
- *Keep a watchful eye on your pet's reactions to young children and a houseful of guests.*





Planning To Give A Pet As A Gift?



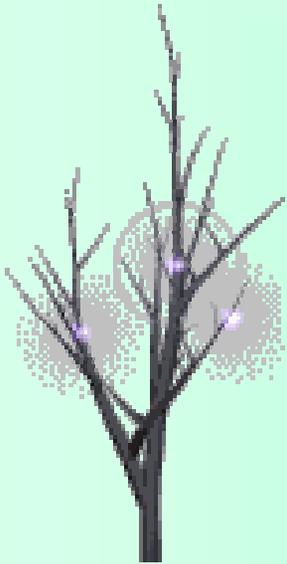
- *Remember: puppies and kittens require a lot of attention.*
- *Young animals are easily excited about strangers and activities in the house.*
- *Their reactions to children can be hard to predict.*
- *A new pet may 'crash' your party, with disastrous effects!*
- *Do some contingency planning before your guests arrive.*



Dashing Through The Snow (And Rain)...



- *Check light strings and extension cords for outdoor use rating.*
- *Inspect all electrical wires to assure they're undamaged .*
- *Use GFCI-protected circuits to power outdoor decorations.*
- *Inspect all equipment you will use to install decorations, for safe operating condition.*
- *Do NOT use metal ladders to install or work on lights and other powered decorations – attach those items using nonconductive fasteners.*
- *Avoid running cords through spots that collect rain water.*
- *Keep power cords out of doorways, walkways, and driveways.*
- *Turn power off before going to bed or leaving home.*
- *Keep walkways, steps, and porches free of ice and snow.*





*Wishing You and Your Loved Ones
A Great Holiday Time!*

