



## Winter Fire Safety Heating Your Home Safely

**Follow these heating tips to help prevent winter fires and to stay safe this winter season:**

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from all heat sources including fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, space heaters or candles.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- Turn space heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected annually by a qualified professional.

*Home fires occur more in the winter months than any other time of the year.*



**FEMA**



**For more information:**  
[www.usfa.fema.gov/winter/](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/winter/)

# Heating Fire Safety



Follow these heating tips to help maintain a fire-safe home this winter.



## Space Heater

- Keep anything that can burn, such as bedding, clothing and curtains, at least 3 feet away from the heater.
- Make sure the heater has an automatic shut-off, so if it tips over, it shuts off.
- Turn heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.
- Plug portable heaters directly into outlets and never into an extension cord or power strip.
- Only use portable heaters from a recognized testing laboratory.



## Fireplace

- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace to prevent embers or sparks jumping out.
- Do not burn paper in your fireplace.
- Put the fire out **before** you go to sleep or leave your home.
- Put ashes in a metal container with a lid, outside, at least 3 feet from your home.



## Wood Stove

- Make sure your wood stove is 3 feet from anything that can burn.
- Do not burn paper in your wood stove.
- Put the fire out **before** you go to sleep or leave your home.
- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned each year by a professional.



## Furnace

- Have your furnace inspected each year.
- Keep anything that can burn away from the furnace.



## Kerosene Heater

- Only use kerosene heaters from a recognized testing laboratory.
- Make sure the heater has an automatic shut-off, so if it tips over, it shuts off.
- Refuel your **cooled** heater outside.

For more information and free resources, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach).