

Candle Safety

Over the last decade, candle fires have tripled nationally. In 2001, an estimated 18,000 home fires started by candles were reported to fire departments.

These fires resulted in:

- 190 deaths
- 1,450 injuries
- An estimated property loss of \$265 million.

Candles may look nice, but they are a growing fire threat in our communities. *Knowing the facts about candles is the key to fire safety:*

- Candles should be kept one foot away from anything that can burn including curtains, blinds, wallpaper, clothing or any other material that can catch fire.
- Extinguish candles before you leave a room.
- Never go to sleep with a candle still burning. Using candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep is highly discouraged.
- Candles should be extinguished when they burn down to two inches of their holder or any decorative holder.
- Kids and teenagers should not be allowed to burn candles.
- Candle holders should be made of material that can't burn and is big enough to catch wax.
- Don't put candles near curtains, other fabrics or near furniture. Keep candles away from draughts.
- The best way to extinguish a candle is to use a long-handled candle snuffer.

Source: United States Fire Administration

