

Seasonal

Fourth of July

The El Paso Fire Department responds to more fires and serious burn injuries this day than any other during the year. Children are often burned in the hands or face, usually because of playing with sparklers. Sparklers can reach temperatures up to 10000 F.

- Remember: It is against the law to use fireworks in the City of El Paso. You may be fined for either using or possessing fireworks.
- El Paso's hot and dry desert landscape, make fire threats more dangerous in the summer. Be careful with all fireworks and keep a fire extinguisher or water handy at all times when using them.
- Instead of using fireworks, check the newspapers for a list of special fireworks displays.

Halloween

- Be careful of traffic during Trick-or-Treating.
- Children should wear costumes that have bright colors or reflectors.
- Use care when using candles. A candle inside a pumpkin or on a candlestick can be dangerous fire hazard.

Christmas

- Keep Christmas Trees Watered to prevent them from drying
- Make sure all lights and extension cords have a label showing they have been tested by an organization such as Factory Mutual or Underwriters Laboratory.
- Inspect all cords to ensure they are not cut, frayed, or damaged in any way. If they are, discard them.
- Never use candles on Christmas Trees.
- Keep wrapping paper, decorations, and ribbon away from open flames and hot lights.
- Turn your Christmas lights off when leaving your home.

- Perform a home safety inspection with spring cleaning - Remember most injuries occur in and around the home. Some can be lethal. Almost all home injuries can be prevented.
- Store any flammable substances properly. Flammable substances are those that catch fire easily. Gasoline is the most common. Remember: gasoline vapors can travel several feet and find an ignition source. Paint, butane, nail polish, lighter fluid and kerosene.
- Heater safety and Fireplaces safety is the primary concern during the winter.
 - Install and check smoke detectors
 - Install and check carbon monoxide detectors
 - Never use gasoline to start a fire in the fireplace
 - Keep wood stacked and covered outdoors
 - Keep the area around fireplace and chimney clean
 - Keep the space around the heater clean. Don't store combustible items near the heater.
- Check smoke detectors once a month.
- Change detector batteries twice yearly. A good way to remember is to change them when you change your clocks.
- Place smoke detectors on each level of a home.
- Kitchen safety tips.
 - Keep the area around the stove clear.
 - Move pan handles so that they don't stick out from the stove. Otherwise they can get bumped and knocked over. Also small children may be tempted to grab them spilling hot food and liquid on top of themselves or others.
 - Read your microwave owners manual carefully. Placing the wrong items in a microwave may start a fire.
- Practice home fire escape plans.

- Everyone should know what to do if a fire breaks out in a home
- Remember children may have trouble reacting to a smoke detector's alarm. They need to be taught what to do.
- Remember: Plan, Prepare, and Practice escaping from a fire.
- Visit: [NFPA Fire Escape Plan](#)