

Now that the summer season has ended and we transition into fall and the colder season, it is a good idea for everyone to refresh their memories on fall fire safety tips.

Most safety tips are the same year-round, but here are some fall fire safety tips for to familiarize with before experiencing the first cold snap of the season.

Check Smoke Detectors & Fire Extinguishers

- Check and Change batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors
- Verify that all fire extinguishers are fully charged and in working order
- Make sure that there are enough smoke detectors in your home
- Don't fight a fire that is larger than a small trash can (2 ft tall). Leave your building and call 911

Make Sure All Heating Sources Work Properly

- No matter what type of device you use to heat your home, making sure your heating devices and/or systems are in good working order
- Verify that everything you need to keep your home warm throughout fall and winter is in good working condition
- The first time in the fall that you use your heater after it has not been in used during the summer, there may be some dust that has settled and will be blown into the air. This dust may be enough to activate your smoke detector. If this happens, make sure that there is not a fire in your house and clean your smoke detector with the hose from vacuum cleaner. If you have a fire alarm system, contact your alarm company as the fire department may be coming to your house.

Space Heater Safety Tips

- Make sure that any space heaters are surrounded by at least three feet of empty space
- Never place clothing or any other objects on a space heater to dry
- Do not place space heaters near furniture or drapery
- Turn space heaters off when you leave the house or go to bed
- Avoid storing any combustible items near heaters
- Depending the type of space heater you have and where it was stored during the summer months, there may be an accumulation of dust. Especially with the parabolic or dish style heaters. Use canned air or a vacuum to clean and remove as much dust as possible and carefully watch your space heater the first time you use it for the season to make sure it is in good working condition.