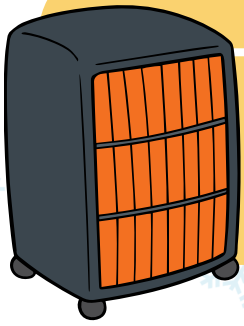
WINTER HEATING SAFETY TIPS

The winter is upon us. A major seasonal fire safety issue that impacts those of us in cold weather environments is the use of heating appliances. The cold winter weather means a more frequent use of portable electric heaters (space heaters) and other heating equipment.

BE WARM & SAFE THIS WINTER

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from open fires and heaters (including children).
- Refrain from using an oven to supply heat.
- Water heaters and stationary space or central heating equipment must be installed by qualified professionals.
- All heating equipment and chimneys must be cleaned annually by a professional.
- Turn off portable heaters when leaving a room or sleeping.
- Only use manufacturer-recommended fuel in fuel-burning space heaters.
- When using a fireplace, use a sturdy screen to confine sparks.
- Ensure that working smoke alarms are installed on every level in a home.
- Develop and practice a home escape plan.



FACT

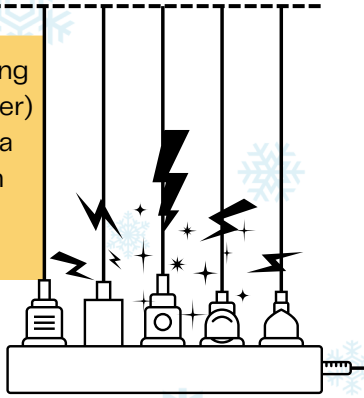
Two in five deaths in space heater fires involve portable electric space heaters.

Indoor and outdoor portable fireplaces and pits have become more popular in recent years.
While these products provide ambiance and a little warmth, keep in mind the fuel, device and open flame can still be dangerous.

- Keep a fire extinguisher, water, or sand close by for emergencies.
- Keep pit at least 10ft away from structures, tents or other flammable objects.
- Never try to move a lit fire pit or one that is still hot.
- Extinguish the flame when you leave or go to sleep.
- Place the fire pit on a sturdy, level non- combustible surface.



Plug only one heat-producing appliance (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time. Avoid plugging them into power bars or extension cords.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

For more information and resources, visit - **www.nfpa.org**