



Candle Safety!

Many people forget that the warm glow and scent of candles come from an open flame. Candles can easily start a fire if anything burnable is nearby. The increasing use of candles has resulted in more home fires.

Did you know?

- Candle fires in homes were 2 ½ times higher in 2004 than in 1990.
- December has twice the number of candle fires as the average month.
- More than half of candle fires involve burnable materials (clothes, curtains, books) that caught fire because they were too close to a candle.

Safety Tips if Using Candles:

1. Put out all candles when leaving the room or going to sleep.
2. Keep candles at least 1 foot away from burnable things.
3. Always use sturdy candle holders that won't tip easily, can't burn and are large enough to catch dripping wax.
4. Keep candle wicks trimmed to ¼ inch.
5. Tall candles should be extinguished when they're within 2 inches of the holder.
6. Small votives should be extinguished before the last ½ inch of wax starts to melt.
7. During power outages, don't carry lit candles. Use flashlights.
8. Do not use candles in bedrooms and other sleeping areas.

Adapted from a fact sheet from the National Fire Protection Association



For fact sheets go to: www.chadkids.org/goto/childhealthmonth

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Children's Hospital at Dartmouth, Injury Prevention Center, NH Department of Health and Human Services, NH Department of Education, NH Pediatric Society, NH SAFE KIDS & Partnership for a Drug Free NH