



Holiday Safety Briefing



Prepared by the Office of Security
Anti-Terrorism Division



Holiday Safety

The Holiday season is a time to celebrate family, friends and give thanks for our good fortunes.

Unfortunately, the Holidays can also be a time when mishaps occur. Hopefully this presentation will remind you of the precautions we can all take to have a safe and happy Holiday season.

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■ Holiday Decorations:

- Always inspect cords for fraying and loose connections.
- Do not use indoor extension cords outside.
- Use grounded extension cords.
- Use proper elevation devices (don't use a chair when a ladder is needed).
- Do not leave real candles unattended.
- If you use a real tree, keep the water re-supplied and check the tree for dryness. Needles should bend, not break. Place candles away from curtains or other flammables.
- Unplug your decorations/lights when you go to bed.
- Keep fire extinguisher handy.
- Poisonous decorative plants: Poinsettias, Holly, Mistletoe (pet and child Hazard).
- Keep decorations out of the reach of small children.

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■ Holiday Cooking

- Turn handles on pots and pans inward on stove.
- Do not leave cooking unattended.
- Do not leave foods that require refrigeration out too long (spoiled foods).

■ Fire Detectors

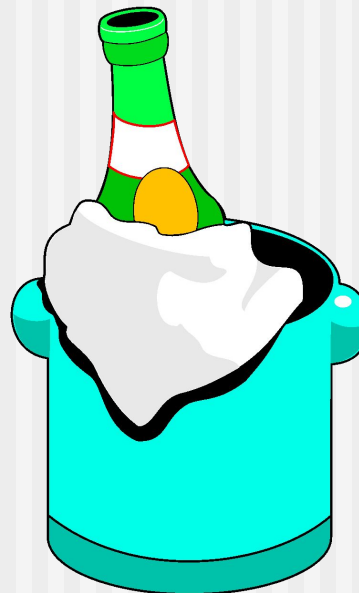
- Test them monthly.

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- Celebrations



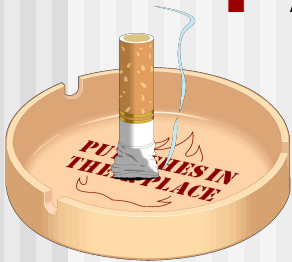
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■ Celebrations

- Take your role as host seriously.
- Ensure Designated Drivers are available.
- Offer a place to stay.
- Provide plenty of food so guests will not drink as much.
- Don't push drinks.
- Use caution for smokers and loose ashes.
- If at a public setting, **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR DRINKS UNATTENDED!**
- Avoid celebrations that include illegal substances.



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- Cold Weather Injuries and Winter Driving
 - Ensure clothing is worn in layers to prevent cold weather injuries such as hypothermia, frost-bite etc.
 - Winterize your vehicle.
 - Reduce speed, especially during inclement weather.
 - Check tires frequently i.e., wear, inflation, etc.
 - Keep dry food, water and blankets for emergency situations.
 - Keep cellular phone fully charged for travel.

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■ Shopping

- Shop with a friend or family. There is safety in numbers.
- Be alert, stay in well lit areas at all times.
- If you carry a purse, keep it in front of your body and close to you.
- Carry your keys in your pocket. If a thief gets your purse, you will still have the keys to your house and car.
- Dress casually. Thieves and pickpockets are attracted to expensive clothes and jewelry.
- Don't flash large amounts of cash.
- Lock your car and don't leave anything in plain sight.
- Avoid parking next to vans where thieves can hide.
- Check your car for uninvited guests prior to getting in.
- Don't over burden yourself with packages.

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■ TOY BUYING SAFETY

- Select Toys to suit age, abilities, skills & the child's interest.
- For infants & toddlers, avoid toys with small parts (choking).
- Don't buy electric toys with heating elements for children under 8.
- Read the label and use the age guidelines for that toy.
- Look for sturdy construction and tightly secured small parts.
- Discard plastic wrappings immediately (suffocation hazard).
- Call Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) hotline 800-638-2772 to report dangerous toys.
- Check the government recall list on the internet at www.cpsc.gov.

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■ Travel Considerations

- Expect increased security at the airports (allow more time).
- Have a picture ID ready (avoid using Federal ID overseas).
- Don't leave bags unattended or carry one for strangers.
- Keep carry-on luggage light & store under the seat in front of you.
- Watch for heavy items stored over your head.
- Pack any medicines or dietary needs in your carry-on bag.
- Dress for the climate you are going to.
- Wear loose fitting natural fiber clothes, avoid synthetics.
- Wear long pants & sleeves and low-heeled leather or tennis shoes.

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- **Travel Considerations (Cont.)**
 - Listen to your pre-flight safety briefing.
 - Read the safety data card in the seat pocket to your front.
 - Know where the emergency exits are from your seat (count rows).
 - Wear your seatbelt and keep it on even if the light is not illuminated.
 - If traveling overseas, contact DOC Office of Security's Anti-Terrorism Division for a travel briefing prior to departure.

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Security is Everyone's Responsibility.



Holiday Safety



*Have a happy
holiday and joyous
New Year*