



A Cornucopia of Useful Information, Hazard Awareness, and Safety Tips

By Chief Robert Turpel, Fire Marshal Michael Schmitt, Fire Inspector Walt Lovelady, and Fire Inspector Mario Tristan

The following article represents a joint venture between the Fire Chief and the Fire Prevention Bureau. The article is broken down into three distinct areas: Emergency Issues, Residential Issues, and Seasonal Issues. They will be addressed in that order. The subject matter presented is rather large in scope but simple to understand and implement.

EMERGENCY ISSUES:

ICE Your Phone: ICE is not only used for cold frosty drinks anymore. It is also an acronym for "In Case of Emergency." A paramedic in London conceived the idea of putting numbers into cell, home, and business phones. Paramedics, firefighters, and police officers often waste valuable time trying to find which names and numbers to call at an accident scene or in the hospital emergency room. If a person is incapacitated or unable to communicate, emergency responders familiar with ICE can notify a pre-designated family member or friend who can provide vital life-saving medical information from cell, home, or business phones.



It is suggested residents put multiple listings under ICE in all their phone directories in case the first person is unavailable. For example, you might consider: ICE Mom, ICE Dad, ICE Aunt; or ICE #1, ICE # 2, etc.



ICE is another way your phones can play a vital role in your life, and perhaps even save it.

Fire Hydrant or Dry Hydrant Maintenance:

As winter approaches, please help the Fire Department by maintaining (visibility and accessibility) the fire hydrant closest to your home or business and keep it free of snow during the winter.

- Please make it a point to uncover your fire hydrant after each and every snowfall.
- Clear a path approximately 3 feet around the hydrant and shovel a path from the roadway up to the fire hydrant.
- If you use a snow plowing contractor,



make sure they clear around the fire hydrant before they leave your property.

These actions will allow the fire department to quickly locate the fire hydrant to obtain a water supply for firefighting activities.

RESIDENTIAL ISSUES

Emergency Accessibility:

When reporting an emergency, the number to call is 9-1-1. When the emergency operator answers, it is absolutely vital to provide the following information: address of the emergency (number & street, **Not RFD**), nature of the emergency, call back name and telephone number.



Being able to find and have access to your property or residence is critical during emergencies. Precious seconds are often lost trying to determine which house or which driveway is the correct one. It is very important that your address numbers be posted in all locations where responders may be presented with a choice of direction. Where several residences share a private road or drive-

way, all address numbers should be posted at the main road. The numbers should be a minimum of 4" tall and should contrast with the background enough to make them



visible at night. Addresses on mail boxes are helpful but often are small and difficult to see at night. Additionally, they may not be posted on both sides of the mailbox and the mailbox itself may be mounted across the road from the house it serves. As emergency personnel respond on a common road or driveway, they will need to determine which specific house is the correct one, so address numbers need to be posted at the end of each individual driveway. Visibility is again a key component.

The other important factor in emergency response is being able to physically reach the emergency. Each time of year presents its own challenges to emergency personnel. There are some things homeowners can do to facilitate access for emergency vehicles. In the summer, please keep trees and vegetation trimmed to allow access. As a general rule, fire apparatus can be 23' to 48' long and 8 ft. wide.

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If My House is on Fire, Where Does the Water Come From?

By Deputy Chief Ken Buchardt

Long Grove Fire Protection District personnel are asked this question several times a week. Most of our Fire District is in a rural setting. This means that we DO NOT have a fire hydrant every 300' like most of the surrounding towns. Yes, there are parts of the District (such as unincorporated Cook County, parts of Lincolnshire, and parts of Deer Park) that do have fire hydrants. *So, Where Does the Water Come From?*

Currently we have 31 drafting hydrants throughout the District. A drafting hydrant is PVC pipe going into the ground and extending into a pond. The flow rates on our hydrants range from 1,000 gallons per minute (GPM) to 1,650 GPM. Drafting hydrants are tested 4 times per year. We visually inspect twice and the other two are pump/draft tested; this is how we get the flow rates. LGFPD firefighters train several times a year on drafting/engineering. *So, Where Does the Water Come From?*

Should there be a reported structure fire in the District, we respond with 4,000 gallons of water along with an additional 9,000 gallons of water from Automatic Response Area (ARA) fire companies (our neighboring fire departments) utilizing fire engines, tankers, and ladder trucks.

During a fire event, one of the most important positions is a Water Supply Officer. The personnel assigned to this position needs to understand how much water will be needed and where to get the water. The Water Supply

Officer needs to know the location of at least two water sources to obtain more water. Tankers are very large pieces of apparatus that are not easy for us to turn around. So ideally you have them come from one direction, dump their water and continue to the secondary water source without turning around. We have pulled 3" or 5" supply lines through back yards to connect to a neighboring town's fire hydrant along with the tanker shuttle system; this has worked very well in helping extinguish structure fires that the District has had in the past. The Water Supply Officer also has to be trained for long hose lays that could be up to a mile from the road to the pumping engine.

So, Where Does the Water Come From?...from several different supplies. These supplies are tankers, engines, drafting hydrants, ponds, swimming pools, and city hydrants. Should you have any questions, please give me a call.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!!!!

Winter Firefighting - How Do We Keep the Fire Engine from Freezing?

By Battalion Chief Marc Small

Winter firefighting can be difficult and slow moving. From the time we get the call to traveling down snow and ice covered roads to arriving at a house fire with snow blocking our way. The bitter cold temperatures can easily freeze our pumps and fire hoses. The temperatures can also play havoc with the firefighters fighting the fire, climbing ladders, or opening a roof to remove the hot gases from a burning building. There are many factors that the fire department has to deal with in the cold weather. Fire engines carry water, so how do we keep it from freezing? We prevent the water we carry from freezing by keeping it moving. We do this by circulating water from the tank to the fire pump in the center of the fire engine behind what is called the pump panel. The pump panel is where the fire apparatus engineer (the fire engine driver) controls the water flow to the fire hoses. Behind the pump panel are all the pipes, valves, and main pump that allow us to move water from the holding tank. To keep all this plumbing from freezing there is an under body pump house enclosure, which is made of metal, installed during cold weather and removed during mild and hot temperature weather. The purpose of the enclosure is to close off the underside of the fire pump and pump house. For the enclosure to be effective, the apparatus exhaust system (usually the muffler) runs through the enclosure. When properly installed, the enclosure traps heat from the apparatus exhaust system in the pump house, providing increased protection to the fire pump and its accessories when exposed to freezing conditions.

Holiday Wreath Sale

By Lieutenant John Jaworski

As I finalized the sales from our 10th annual Christmas Wreath Sale, I was curious on how we did for the last ten years; the results are pretty impressive. For the last 10 years the Long Grove Fire Fighters Association has raised almost ten thousand dollars with all proceeds benefiting Camp "I Am Me" (formerly called Burn Camp). Camp "I Am Me" is a summer camp that meets for one week each year in June at Camp Duncan in Volo. Camp "I Am Me" provides the setting for burn survivors ages 8-16 to share their common experiences while being able to play and not feel self conscious about their scars. For more information log on to the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance at <http://www.ifsfa.org>. ***Thank you very much for your support.***

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Please remember that fire engines are also 10-12 ft. tall, and fire trucks may be even taller than that. In the winter, please keep driveways plowed to their full width. Shoveling (and salting) walks and stairs will not only help during an emergency (especially medical calls where your family member may need to be carried out to the ambulance), but may go a long way toward helping you avoid an emergency entirely.

Home Fire Escape Planning: More than 4,000 Americans die each year in fires and more than 20,000 are injured. Many of them might be alive today if they had only had the information they needed to avoid a disaster. The following life-saving tips could make a big difference.

Did you know?

- Eighty-two percent of all fire deaths occur in the home.
- Senior citizens, age 65 and older, and children under the age of five are at the greatest risk of death from fire.
- Deaths due to an inability to escape are particularly preventable.
- Having a working smoke alarm reduces one's chance of dying in a fire by nearly a half.

Following these simple fire safety tips can boost survival rates dramatically. Please share them with your family because knowledge is the best fire protection.

Fire Escape Planning Life-Saving Tips

- Install a smoke alarm in every bedroom and on every level of your home. Test smoke alarm batteries every month and change them at least once a year. Consider installing a 10-year lithium battery-powered smoke alarm, which is sealed so it cannot be tampered with or opened.
- Know your local emergency numbers. In our area, the number is 9-1-1.
- Practice finding your way out of the house with your eyes closed, crawling or staying low and feeling your way out of the house.
- Never open doors that are hot to the touch.
- Teach your family to stop, drop to the ground, and roll if their clothes catch fire.
- Designate a meeting place outside and take attendance. Get out and stay out.
- Remember to escape first, and then notify the fire department.
- Make sure everyone in your family knows at least two ways to escape from each room in the house.

Emergency Preparedness: When preparing for a possible emergency situation, it's important to prepare an emergency supply kit that includes basic needs for survival, develop a family emergency plan, and be informed about the different types of emergencies that may occur where you live and appropriate ways to respond to them.

In most types of disaster related emergencies, the risk of fire is increased due to loose electrical wires, flooding, broken gas lines, or the lack of electricity. Be fire wise ... *Prepare, Plan, and Stay Informed!*

Prepare for an Emergency

1. Get a Kit

In a basic emergency supply kit, the following are recommended:

- One gallon of water per person per day for three days – remember to include enough for your pets too
 - At least a 3-day supply of non-perishable food. Select foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking, and little or no water. Also, choose foods your family will eat, such as ready-to-eat canned meats, peanut butter, protein or fruit bars, and dry cereal or granola. Also, pack a manual can opener and utensils.



- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust masks to help filter contaminated air, and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags, and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Local maps

Don't forget about the special needs of family members:

- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food, extra water for your pet, leash and collar
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification, and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

2. Make a Plan

Preparing a family emergency plan is simple. It will help your family to stay in contact if they are separated during an emergency.

The emergency plan includes the physical address, phone number, and evacuation locations for work, school, and other most frequented locations. Remember to include phone and policy numbers for doctors, pharmacies, medical insurance, homeowners insurance, and vet or kennels. Most importantly, the Plan should include:

- Out-of-town contact
- Neighborhood meeting place
- Regional meeting place
- Evacuation location

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3. Be Informed

Being informed about the different types of emergencies that could happen where you live and the appropriate ways to respond to them will impact the decisions you make and the actions you take.

In addition, learn about the emergency plans that have been established in your area by your state and local governments.

Chemical Safety: Look for combustible liquids like gasoline, lighter fluid, and paint thinner that may have spilled. Thoroughly clean the spill and place the containers in a well ventilated area. Remember to keep combustible liquids away from any heat source.

Electrical Safety: If your home has sustained flood or water damage, and you can safely get to the main breaker or fuse box, turn off the power. Assume all wires on the ground are electrically charged; this includes cable feeds. Look for and replace frayed or cracked extension cords, loose prongs, and plugs; exposed outlets and wiring could present a fire and life safety hazard. Appliances that emit smoke or sparks should be repaired or replaced. Be sure to have a licensed electrician check your home for any damage.

Gas Safety: Smell and listen for leaky gas connections. If you believe there is a gas leak, immediately leave the house and leave the door open. Never strike a match or touch any light switches. Any size flame or spark can cause an explosion. Have a professional check the gas system to turn the gas back on.

Generator Safety: Follow the manufacturer's instructions and guidelines when using a generator. Always use a generator or other fuel-powered machines outside of the home. Carbon monoxide fumes are odorless and can quickly overwhelm you indoors.

Carbon Monoxide Alarm:

- Carbon Monoxide (CO) is an invisible, odorless gas. It is a common by-product of incomplete combustion, produced when fossil fuels like wood, coal, charcoal, gasoline, kerosene, natural gas, or oil burn.
- CO weighs about the same as air and distributes evenly throughout the room and house. When installing a CO alarm, choose a location where the alarm will stay clean, and out of the way of children and pets. See the User's Manual for specific installation requirements.
- Symptoms of CO poisoning can be as follows:
 - Mild exposure: slight headache, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, or flu-like symptoms.
 - Extreme exposure: convulsions, unconsciousness, heart and lung damage. Exposure can lead to brain damage and death.
- If the CO alarm activates, call 9-1-1. Move everyone immediately to fresh air-outdoors or by an open door or

window. Do a head count to check that all persons are accounted for. Do not re-enter the premises until it has been checked out by the fire department.

- When buying a carbon monoxide alarm, first look for a (UL) listing certification. Try to find an alarm that provides a visual indicator of the concentration (parts per million – PPM) levels. Once you buy the alarm carefully follow the manufactures' instruction for its placement, use, and preventive maintenance. For additional information on Carbon Monoxide alarms please check out the following link: www.carbonmonoxidekills.com



Latch Key Kids Safety Information: Parents certainly don't want to make their children paranoid about staying alone in the house. But it is entirely appropriate to go over safety instructions and to discuss potential dangers. Things have, unfortunately, changed in our society, and each of us has the responsibility for our own security and protection. This is a case where it is truly better to be safe than sorry.

Here are some other basic safety tips for being home alone:

- Establish "House Rules." Write them down, post them, and review them periodically. Consider including homework and chores, using the phone, computer, or kitchen appliances.
- Stress early on that parents should not be called to settle minor sibling disputes and disagreements. These can be addressed in the evening or at special weekly "meetings" held for just that purpose.
- Practice emergency procedures, including calling 9-1-1. Don't assume that youngsters will know what to say on the phone in the event of an emergency, so rehearse some possible situations and talk about what you would expect them to do in each one.
- Do some role playing to make children comfortable answering phone calls and taking messages, as well as dealing with things like peer pressure (other kids wanting to come inside) and strangers.
- If you have a change of plans, or if you are not going to return home when you said you would, call and reassure your children. They tend to worry when things don't go according to plan, and a lack of information can cause them to panic.
- There are many occasions during the school year when youngsters have after school activities. Be sure to discuss each day's schedule (including all transportation plans) so that parents won't worry if the "safe home" message is not received when expected.
- Try to avoid placing too much responsibility on a young child and listen carefully when a "home alone-er" wants to share concerns or problems.

Remember, no matter how mature your child acts, he or she is still a child. Children invariably make mistakes; they don't always react in a situation as you wish they would. And, even if they start off well without adult supervision,

they can get “spooked” and develop real fears about being home by themselves. Give your youngsters lots of encouragement, support and reinforcement, and treat their mistakes as learning experiences instead of failures. Show them how much you appreciate their helpfulness, self-reliance, and cooperation while you are away, and be liberal with appropriate rewards.

Home Fire Sprinklers Are Simple to Maintain:

Home fire sprinkler systems require very little maintenance. In fact, the sprinklers themselves require nothing more than an occasional look to ensure that nothing is hanging from them, or blocking them. Valves should be similarly checked to ensure that the ones that should be open, are open. The sprinkler system flow switch and water flow alarms should be tested once a year – a simple test that can be done by the homeowner or a contractor.

Contact the Fire Prevention Bureau for some simple instructions on how to test your residential sprinkler system.

Home Fire Safety Resources:

- Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition: www.homefiresprinkler.org
- Home Safety Council: www.homesafetycouncil.org
- National Fire Protection Association: www.nfpa.org



Portable Fire Extinguishers:

A portable fire extinguisher can put out a small fire or contain it until the fire department arrives. Portable extinguishers are not designed to fight a large or spreading fire. Even against small fires, they are useful only under the right conditions:

- An extinguisher must be large enough for the fire at hand. It must be fully charged and in working order.
 - The operator must know how to use the extinguisher quickly without taking time to read directions during an emergency.
 - The operator must be reasonably strong to lift and operate the extinguisher.



Remember: If you are called on to use an extinguisher, just think of the word “**P.A.S.S.**”
PULL: the safety pin at the top of the extinguisher.

AIM: the nozzle or hose at the base of the flames. Stay between six and eight feet away from the flames.

SQUEEZE: or press the handle

SWEEP: from side to side at the base of the fire until it goes out.

By following these procedures, a fire can be extinguished in the quickest and safest manner possible.

Knox Boxes (Commercial and Residential): The Knox Box provides a secure exterior repository for entry keys to the building on which they are installed. The installation of a Knox Box is designed to eliminate the need for a possible forced entry into your building. The Knox

Box system is the only system approved by the Long Grove Fire Protection District for the purpose of rapid entry into buildings. Only your fire department has access to the keys in your Knox Box. The keys for Knox Boxes are specific to each fire department and will not work in any other fire district.

Residential Emergency Information: Emergency information such as: medical history, medications and dosages, emergency contact numbers, and insurance information should be kept in a location in your home (such as the refrigerator) where, in an emergency, the paramedics are able to access the information whether or not you are able to communicate with them. The information should be updated at least annually.

SEASONAL ISSUES

As always, there are several hazards and associated safety tips concerned with the seasons. The first one that comes to mind is nasty weather. Please use extra caution when walking or driving in snowy/icy conditions. Expect the unexpected. Apply salt/sand as necessary to surfaces in order to reduce potential fall/driving hazards. Dress appropriately (layers work the best) in order to stay warm and dry. Do not overexert yourself when shoveling snow or utilizing a snow blower. Take frequent breaks as needed and if you question your ability to perform the work based on your fitness level/medical history, do not partake in it unless cleared by your physician. Remember, it is ultimately easier and safer to go out and shovel multiple times when the snow accumulations are less than to wait until it is extremely deep and heavy. Also, carry a seasonal survival kit in your vehicle should you break down in a remote area or during severe weather when assistance may be inordinately delayed.

Winter Fire Safety:

During the winter months, residential fires are more prevalent than they are in the spring or summer. This is due in part to an increase in the number of cooking and heating fires.

With colder temperatures and the high cost of home heating fuels and utilities, many people resort to using fireplaces, wood stoves, space heaters, and other alternative heating methods to keep warm. All of these methods of heating are acceptable; however, they are also major contributors to residential fires. **Many of these fires can be prevented!** The following fire safety tips can help you maintain a fire-safe home this winter.

Did You Know?

In the winter, structure fires increase, although total fires decrease. A substantial portion of the structure fire increase is caused by heating fires. In an average year, heating is the cause of 17 percent of structure fires; however, during the winter, heating fires jump to 27 percent of structure fires. Heating fires are concentrated in late fall through mid-winter (December - February), during winter holidays and the coldest months. Since colder tempera-

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tures result in longer operating time for heating equipment, there is more opportunity for that equipment to cause a fire.

Wood Stove and Fireplaces

Wood stoves and fireplaces are becoming very common heat sources in homes. Careful attention to safety can minimize their fire hazard. To use them safely:



- Be sure the fireplace or stove is installed properly. Wood stoves should have adequate clearance (36 inches) from combustible surfaces and proper floor support and protection.
- Wood stoves should be of good quality, solid construction, and design. Purchase wood stoves evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- Have the chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary, especially if it has not been used for some time.
- Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.
- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace opening to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out, unwanted material from going in, and help prevent the possibility of burns to occupants.
- The stove should be burned hot twice a day for 15-30 minutes to reduce the amount of creosote buildup.
- Don't use excessive amounts of paper to build roaring fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.
- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.
- Keep flammable materials away from your fireplace mantel. A spark from the fireplace could easily ignite these materials.
- Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out. NEVER close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.

Furnaces

It is important that you have your furnace inspected to ensure that it is in good working condition.

- Be sure all furnace controls and emergency shutoffs are in proper working condition.
- Do not attempt repairs yourself; leave furnace repairs to qualified specialists.
- Inspect the walls and ceiling near the furnace and along the chimney line. If the wall is hot or discolored, additional pipe insulation or clearance may be required.
- Check the flue pipe and pipe seams. Are they well supported and free of holes and cracks? Soot along or around seams may be an indicator of a leak.
- Is the chimney solid, with cracks or loose bricks? All

unused flue openings should be sealed with solid masonry.

- Keep trash and other combustibles away from the heating system.

Kerosene Heaters

- Be sure your heater is in good working condition. Inspect exhaust parts for carbon buildup. Be sure the heater has an emergency shut off in case the heater is tipped over.
- Never use fuel burning appliances without proper room venting. Burning fuel (coal, kerosene, or propane for example) can produce deadly fumes. Use ONLY the fuel recommended by the heater manufacturer. NEVER introduce a fuel into a unit not designed for that type of fuel.
- Keep kerosene or other flammable liquids stored in approved metal containers, in well ventilated storage areas outside of the house.
- NEVER fill the heater while it is operating or hot. Follow manufacturer's instructions. When refueling an oil or kerosene unit, avoid overfilling. Cold fuel may expand in the tank as it warms up.
- Refueling should be done outside of the home (or outdoors). Keep young children away from space heaters – especially when they are wearing pajamas or other loose clothing that can be easily ignited.
- When using a fuel burning appliance in the bedroom, be sure there is proper ventilation to prevent a buildup of carbon monoxide.

Winter Storm Fire Safety

Fire-related hazards present during and after a winter storm:

- Alternative heating devices used incorrectly create fire hazards.
- Damaged or downed utility lines can present a fire and life safety hazard.
- Water damaged appliances and utilities can be electrically charged.
- Frozen water pipes can burst and cause safety hazards.
- Leaking gas lines, damaged or leaking gas propane containers, and leaking vehicle gas tanks may explode or ignite.
- Generators are often used during power outages. Generators that are not properly used and maintained can be hazardous.

Candle Safety

The mesmerizing soft light of a candle can be a wonderful way to celebrate the holidays; however the misuse of them can be disastrous. Here is the *Candle Safety Rules* list from the National Candle Association:

- Always keep a burning candle within sight.
- Never burn a candle on or near anything that can catch fire.
- Keep candles out of the reach of children and pets.
- Trim candlewicks to 1/4" each time before burning.
- Always use a candleholder specifically designed for

candle use.

- Be sure the candleholder is placed on a stable, heat-resistant surface.
- Keep the wax pool free of wick trimmings, matches, and debris at all times.
- Keep burning candles away from drafts, vents, ceiling fans, and air currents.
- Always burn candles in a well-ventilated room.
- Don't burn a candle all the way down.
- Never touch or move a burning candle when the wax is liquid.
- Never use a knife or sharp object to remove wax drippings from a glass holder.
- Place burning candles at least three inches apart.
- Use a snuffer to extinguish a candle.
- Never extinguish a candle with water.
- Be very careful if using candles during a power outage.
- Make sure a candle is completely extinguished and the wick is no longer glowing before leaving a room.
- Extinguish a candle if it flickers repeatedly, smokes, or the flame becomes too high.
- Never use a candle as a night light.



Turkey Fryer Safety

Turkey, Turkey, Turkey seems to be the meat of choice this time of year. Many people say there is no better way to prepare it than deep fried. Underwriters Laboratory (UL) considers turkey fryers to be dangerous to use, presenting numerous hazards to consumers. "We're worried by the increasing reports of fires related with turkey fryer use", says John Drengenberg, consumer affairs manager of UL. "Based on our test findings, the fryers used to produce those great-tasting birds are not worth the risks. And as a result of these tests, UL has decided not to certify any turkey fryers with our trusted UL Mark". If you absolutely must use a turkey fryer, please use the following tips:



- Turkey fryers should always be used outdoors a safe distance from buildings and any other flammable materials.
- Never use turkey fryers in a garage or on a wooden deck.
- Make sure the fryers are used on a flat surface to reduce accidental tipping.
- Never leave the fryer unattended. Most units do not have thermostat controls. If you do not watch the fryer carefully, the oil will continue to heat until it catches fire.
- Never let children or pets near the fryer even if it is not in use. The oil inside the cooking pot can remain dangerously hot hours after use.
- To avoid oil spillover, do not overfill the fryer.
- Use well-insulated potholders or oven mitts when touching pot or lid handles.

- If possible, wear safety goggles to protect your eyes from oil splatter.
- Make sure the turkey is completely thawed and be careful with marinades. Oil and water do not mix, and water causes oil to spill over causing a fire or even an explosion hazard.
- The National Turkey Federation (NTF) recommends thawing the turkey in the refrigerator approximately 24 hours for every five pounds in weight.
- Keep an all-purpose fire extinguisher nearby. Never use water to extinguish a grease fire. If the fire is manageable, use your all-purpose fire extinguisher. If the fire increases, immediately call the fire department for help.

Decorate Safely

Holiday lights and decorations are a treat for all of us to marvel at; however the improper use and installation of them can have catastrophic results. Maintain your holiday lights. Inspect them each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking/wear and tear before you put them up. Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory for the purpose at hand; this is either inside and/or outside installation. Do not overload electrical outlets. Use only Ground Fault Interrupter (GFI) outlets to plug outside lights into. Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe to do so. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging them into an outlet. Make sure to periodically check the wires—they should not be warm to the touch. Do not leave holiday lights on unattended. All decorations should be non-flammable or flame-retardant and placed away from heat/ignition sources. If you are using a metallic or artificial tree, make sure it is flame retardant. Do not block exits with trees or other decorations. In the event of a fire, time is of the essence. A blocked entry/exit way puts you and your family at risk. Finally, never put wrapping paper in the fireplace. Wrapping paper burning in the fireplace may turn into a very large fire throwing off dangerous sparks and embers and resulting in a chimney fire.



Remember Fire Safety

The preceding paragraphs have offered a wide array of useful information that should be utilized to make things safer for home and business owners. Please understand that due to space constraints, we must keep our explanations of many of these important topics very brief. If you have any questions or require clarifications and additional information on any of the subjects appearing above or any matter relating to emergency preparedness or response, please don't hesitate to contact the Long Grove Fire Protection District at 847-634-3143.

Remember,
YOUR SAFETY IS OUR BUSINESS.



Fire Line
A newsletter of
Long Grove Fire Protection District
1165 Old McHenry Road
Long Grove IL 60047
847-634-3143

Presorted Standard Mail
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 1111
Palatine P&DC

Emergency always dial 9-1-1
Non-emergency 847-634-3143

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4th Annual Pancake Breakfast



The Long Grove Firefighters Association and the South Lake County Regional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will be having their annual Pancake Breakfast. The annual fundraiser will be at the Long Grove fire station on Saturday, April 16, 2011 from 8:00 am until 12:00 noon. The cost will be \$5 per person. We will hold a silent

auction and a raffle at this popular event. Proceeds will go to the Long Grove Firefighters Association's assistance fund and the South Lake County Regional Community Emergency Response Team for equipment and supplies. As many as 800 people have attended this annual event. For questions, please contact Battalion Chief Marc Small at 847-634-3143.

CPR/AED & First Aid Classes

Did you know that Long Grove Fire Protection District offers CPR/AED and First Aid classes? The scheduled dates for 2011 are as follows:

CPR/AED:

January 6
February 3
March 3
April 7
May 5
June 9
July 7
August 4
September 8
October 6
November 3
December 8

FIRST AID

March 1
June 7
September 6
December 6

