

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT...



According to the National Candle Association, 70% of households in the United States use candles.

Most people don't see candles as a major fire hazard, but according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) from 1983-1998 candles accounted for 8,690 fires, 104 deaths, 974 injuries and an estimated \$126 million in property damage. Between 2001-2002 an estimated 18,000 fires were started by candles with 130 deaths, 1350 injuries and \$333 million in property damage.

HERE ARE SOME MORE EYE-OPENING FACTS:

- Candle fires account for 5% of all home fires
- 40% of all home candle fires start in the bedroom and account for 30% of the deaths
- 50% of candle fires occur when combustible materials are left near a burning candle
- Falling asleep while a candle is burning accounts for 12% of candle fires and 25% of related deaths

DON'T GET BURNED! FOLLOW THESE SAFETY TIPS!

- Use candles only with constant adult supervision
- Never leave a candle burning! **WHEN YOU GO OUT...BLOW OUT!**
- Keep candles away from items that can catch fire, such as Christmas trees, clothing, paper or curtains
- Place candles and candleholders on a secure piece of furniture. Make sure candleholders are non-combustible and large enough to collect the dripping wax.
- Do not place candles in windows where blinds or curtains can close over them
- Keep wicks trimmed to 1/4 inch and extinguish candles when they burn to within 2 inches of the holder
- Keep candles and all open flames away from flammable liquids
- Do not use candles in places where they can be knocked over by children or pets

A Message From The Houston Fire Department

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