



Wintertime Safety Suggestions

As the weather turns colder, we hope you can stay safe and cozy by taking a few precautions with all of your heat sources. For starters, it's a good idea to have your furnace serviced each year to make sure things are in working order. Here are a few more suggestions...

- Keep a "clear zone" around any heat source, including fireplaces, wood stoves and portable heaters. Don't allow papers, curtains, holiday decorations or other combustibles within a three-foot circle.
- Have your chimney and firebox periodically cleaned and inspected to take care of buildup or deterioration, which can lead to fires. Chimney cleaning "logs" are not enough.
- Don't burn wrapping paper, ribbons or other materials that burn hotter than most fireboxes can handle. Burn only seasoned firewood.
- Before starting a fire, make sure your flu is open.
- Use a fireplace screen to contain sparks.
- Don't leave a fire unattended. Extinguish completely before leaving the house or retiring to bed.

See page 3 for more tips for keeping your family safe!



Reminder:

Don't Delay — Call 911!

Whenever you are sick or in distress and need help — dial 911. Your tax dollars have already paid for this service. There is no out-of-pocket charge to you if you call for an ambulance. The ambulance drivers will help you decide if you should go on to the hospital, but that decision is up to you.

If you do need to go to the hospital, ambulance drivers are trained in medical procedures and can help stabilize you immediately before they transport you. They can get to you faster than you can get to the hospital on your own.

Don't ever hesitate to call 911 in an emergency. Firemedics are trained to help you in all sorts of emergency situations. Don't delay — call 911!

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A Message from Fire Chief Fred Friedl...

A Firefighter's Job



What part of a firefighter's job is most dangerous? One of the leading causes of firefighter fatalities occurs while responding to an emergency. Effective fire and medical emergency responses are dealt with not in minutes...but in SECONDS. Safer traffic flow and improved response times can make the difference between a crisis and a catastrophe. How can you help make a firefighter's job safer and improve responses?

"Sirens and Lights – Pull To The Right!" Emergency personnel understand the surge of surprise motorists experience at the sound and sight of a fire truck or ambulance rapidly approaching with siren and flashing lights. But it is important to think ahead. Train yourself to pull to the right at the sound or sight of emergency vehicles, just as you automatically slow and stop for school buses with flashing lights.

DO...

- Remain calm!
- Pull to the right and stop.
- When on a high-speed road or where there is no room to stop, slow down as much as possible.
- When in the left lane, pull into the right lane as traffic in the lane to your right moves over.
- If you can't move right because of an obstacle such as a car, simply stop. Prompt action allows the emergency driver to anticipate where to drive.
- On multi-lane roads without barriers, **both** sides of traffic should pull to the right. (The emergency vehicle may need to turn in front of oncoming traffic.)

DON'T...

- Don't stop in a middle lane if there is room to pull to the right.
- Don't pull into the center lane, left lane or left turn lane.
- If you are stopped at an intersection or red light when an emergency vehicle approaches from behind, **don't move** unless you can pull to the right.
- Don't drive through a red light or stop sign.
- Don't turn quickly to the left into a driveway or street.
- Don't race to get through a light or turn before the emergency vehicle gets there.
- Don't disregard emergency vehicles by continuing to drive!

Thank You to Our Good Neighbors at...

Fairfield Inn at Gurnee Mills
Country Inn Suites, 5420 Grand Ave.
Comfort Suites, 5430 Grand Ave.

These good neighbors will provide a night of free accommodations to district families who have been displaced because of fire damage.

Thank you, also, to **KB Toys**, which has partnered with the fire department to provide new teddy bears. These bears are given to children to offer comfort if they need to ride in the ambulance or if they experience other emergencies — and sometimes they get squeezed pretty hard. Thank, KB Toys!

What Is WWFPD?

The Warren-Waukegan Fire Protection District (WWFPD), along with the Village of Gurnee, makes up a 32 square mile area stretching from Waukegan to Route 45. The area includes Gurnee Mills mall and Six Flags Great America.

The WWFPD is responsible for providing fire and ambulance coverage for the unincorporated lands within this area, while the Gurnee Fire Department provides service for the neighborhoods within the Gurnee village limits.

The District provides fire and ambulance coverage by contracting for services with the Gurnee Fire Department. In this way, the Department provides 24-hour fire and rescue services for the entire area, operating out of two stations in Gurnee — 4580 Old Grand Avenue and 6581 Dada Drive.

Board Meetings

The WWFPD Board of Trustees meets the third Wednesday evening of every other month at 7:30 p.m. at the Gurnee Fire Department Fire Station #2, 6581 Dada Dr., Gurnee, at the corner of Hunt Club and Dada Roads. Remaining scheduled meetings for the 2008-09 Fiscal Year are November 19, January 21 and March 18. An updated schedule is available at www.wwfpd.com/schedule.html.

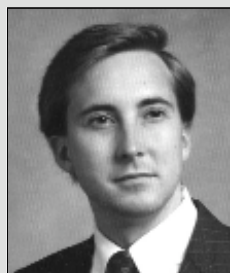
For Information

More information is available online at www.wwfpd.com. To contact the Warren-Waukegan Fire Protection District, call 847-599-6600 or send an email to districtboard@wwfpd.com.

WWFPD Board of Trustees



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Tips for Keeping Your Holiday Safe

To help ensure your holiday celebrations are happy and safe, please take extra care and follow a few simple safety guidelines.

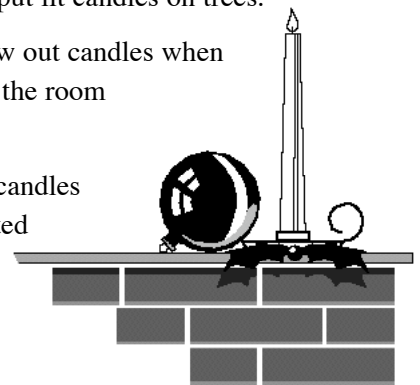
Tree Safety

- When buying a real tree, make sure it is fresh and green. It will last longer and be less of a fire hazard.
- Consider using a fire-resistant artificial tree. It is safer than a real tree.
- Display your tree at least 3 feet from heat sources like furnace ducts, radiators or space heaters, and as far away as possible from fireplaces.
- Use a sturdy tree stand and make sure your tree is straight, so it won't topple over if your child or pet brushes by it.
- Keep real trees watered to keep them as fresh as possible.
- Put ornaments out of the reach of young children to make sure they can't grab them and pull the tree down.
- Take your tree down promptly after the holidays. A dry tree is a fire hazard.
- Never use real candles on a tree.

Lights and Decorations

- Inspect new and old light sets for cracked sockets, frayed wires and loose connections. Discard broken sets.
- Use only UL-certified lights and decorations.

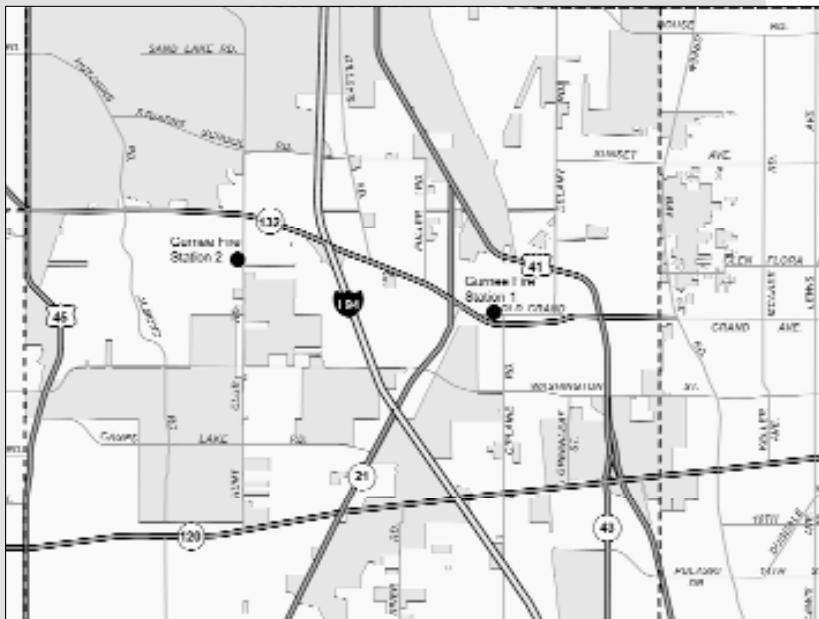
- Do not attach more than three sets of lights to one extension cord. Use a power strip for extra safety.
- Turn off lights when you leave home and retire for bed in the evening.
- Don't run cords under carpets. They can become frayed or damaged and will go unnoticed.
- Don't hang stockings over the fireplace.
- Place candles where they won't be knocked down or blown over.
- Keep candles away from decorations and wrapping paper. Never put lit candles on trees.
- Extinguish fires and blow out candles when you go to sleep or leave the room for an extended time.
- Consider replacing real candles with safer battery-operated faux candles. They are fairly inexpensive, great looking and safe.



Kitchen Tips

- Holiday meals means more cooks in the kitchen. Keep a clear zone around your range — no children or pets — to prevent spills and accidental burns.
- Turn pot handles away from the edges of the cooktop to keep them from being accidentally grabbed or bumped.
- Keep knives away from counter edges and out of children's reach.

Map of the District — WWFPD coverage areas in grey.

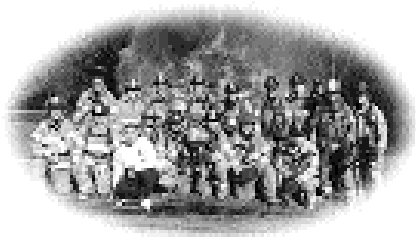


- Never hold a child while cooking.
- Never leave the kitchen while you are cooking.

Make Sure Your Detectors are Working

The most important thing you can do for you and your family is make sure you have working smoke and CO detectors. *Change the batteries when you change your clocks.* If your detector is more than 10 years old, consider purchasing a new one. They are relatively inexpensive — and can save your life!





**Warren-Waukegan
Fire Protection District**

*c/o Gurnee Fire Department
4580 Old Grand Avenue
Gurnee, IL 60031*

Winter 2008-09

- **Winter Safety Tips**
- **Don't Delay – Call 911**
- **Sirens and Lights – Pull Right!**
- **Thanks, Good Neighbors**
- **WWFPD Board Meetings**
- **More Safety Suggestions**

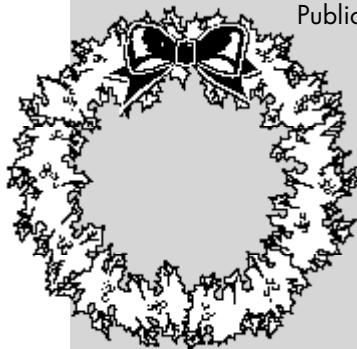
The Warren-Waukegan Fire Protection Newsletter is published periodically by the Warren-Waukegan Fire Protection District. Please consider sharing your comments and suggestions.

*E-mail: districtboard@wwfpd.com
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www.wwfpd.com*

Special Mention...

Firefighters from across the region were quick to lend a hand in the aftermath of Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Hats off to Gurnee Firemedic **John Rikje** for his efforts in Louisiana.

Congratulations to Firemedic/Public Education Officer **Christopher Koehn**, (*photo at right*) who was named Gurnee Firefighter of the Year. As Public Education Officer, Firemedic Koehn is responsible for the Public Information Department. He is also co-chair for the Lake County Fire Safety EXPO, a participant at "I Am Me" Burn Camp, and a member of the Fire Chiefs Northern Illinois Public Education Team.



*Best Wishes for a
Happy and Safe Holiday
and a Wonderful New Year!*