



SAFETY MATTERS

Keep these tips in mind when decorating for the holidays:



We recommend fire resistant artificial trees do to due to allergies, asthma, and risk of fire. Make sure they have the UL listing to ensure electrical safety.

Always position trees away from fireplaces, radiators, and portable heaters, and out of the path of travel.

Never pick up broken glass ornaments with bare hands — wear cut-resistant gloves or use mechanical device such as tongs or a broom and dustpan.

Lights:

Look for the UL label before hanging lights.

Use indoor lights indoors and outdoor lights outdoors.

Inspect lights before hanging them for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, and loose connections.

Replace/repair any damaged strings of lights.

Never nail, tack, staple, or place stress on the wires.

Turn off lights and unplug extension cords before going home every day.



Extension Cords:

Position extension cords against the wall to avoid tripping hazards.

Never run cords in front of or under doors, rugs, or furniture so they don't become abraded.

When connecting several strings of lights to each other, always follow the manufacturer's recommendation as to the maximum number connected together.

Ladder Safety:

Never stand on a chair, table, or other furniture to reach high places — use a step ladder with slip-resistant feet.

Always face the ladder when climbing — grip the rungs and keep your hips between the rails.

Use a tool belt, hand line or other system to raise/lower items as needed so you can maintain 3 points of contact with the ladder at all times, i.e., 2-hands and 1-foot or 2-feet and 1-hand.

Always post warning signs and lock or barricade the door if using a ladder near a doorway.

Never stand on the top step of a step ladder or top 3 rungs of a straight, single or extension ladder.

Avoid leaning or overreaching while working on a ladder — move the ladder closer to the work.

Don't forget to enter our special Winter Walking Safety drawing —

For a chance to WIN a fabulous prize for yourself AND your District!

Click [here](#) or visit <https://tinyurl.com/y7nq6heu>

It's easy and only takes a minute to enter!

Sponsored by your friends in Safety Services at the NCESD



*To be eligible to win you must work in a district served by NCESD #171. Submit your entry by 8 a.m. on Monday, December 10, 2018