



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dan Wurl
Fire Chief

DATE: *December 16, 2010*

CONTACT: *Penni Overstreet-Murphy, Fire Prevention Specialist*
(909) 386-8472, (909) 936-5541 cell

HOLIDAY HAPPINESS

This holiday make sure to practice some basic safety precautions from cooking to decking the halls. The leading cause of home fires and injuries and the third leading cause of fire deaths is cooking equipment, according to the latest statistics from the National Fire Protection Association. The biggest safety items:

- Stay in the kitchen while you are preparing food. Never leave food unattended.
- Remember that anything that produces heat should have a 3 foot clearance; this includes keeping small children out of the kitchen while hot food is being prepared.
- If a fire starts in a pan, put a lid on it and turn off the burner. If a fire starts in the oven or microwave, turn off the heat source and keep the door closed. Remember to call 9-1-1 immediately!

The holidays are not just about food; other things that pose a fire hazard are Christmas trees, candles, and poisoning hazards. Some of the more common safety issues include:

- Keep your live tree watered at all times and keep it away from heat sources.
- Inspect lights for exposed or frayed wires, loose connections and broken sockets.
- Make sure to not overload extension cords or outlets and don't run cords under rugs, furniture, etc.
- Never burn tree branches, treated wood or wrapping paper in your home fireplace.
- Make sure to have good ventilation when using artificial snow or any other aerosol product.
- Mistletoe berries, Holly Berry and Jerusalem Cherry can be poisonous, keep out of reach of children and pets.



Mistletoe berries



Jerusalem Cherry



Holly Berry