



NEWS



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San Bernardino County Fire Officials Issue Warning Over Christmas Trees

Tracy Bloom, KTLA 5 News

Posted: December 19, 2016, 9:48 AM



A Christmas tree engulfed in flames is seen in a U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission video posted on YouTube on Dec. 8, 2015.

In an annual reminder ahead of the holiday, fire officials once again advised residents to properly dispose of their Christmas trees, warning that a failure to do so could lead to a house fire.

Residents should get rid of their trees after Christmas, or when they start to dry out, according to a **San Bernardino County Fire Department** news release.

“Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home,” the release stated.

Trees should be removed by placing a plastic tree bag underneath the stand, pulling it up around the tree and then carrying it outside, according to the department.

Safe and responsible ways to dispose of Christmas trees include curbside pick-up, dropping it off at a recycling center or cutting the tree to fit in a yard waste container. Additionally, the tree and its branches can be chipped and used as mulch.

Residents should not burn a Christmas trees in a home fireplace because they have the ability to “burn explosively.”

“The pitch in the wood creates huge, fast-moving sparks that can jump right out of the fireplace and into your room, or up the chimney and onto the shingles of your roof potentially causing a fire,” the Fire Department explained.

In the latest figures provided by the National Fire Protection Association, there were an estimated 210 home structure fires per year between 2010 and 2014 that were sparked because of Christmas trees. The fires were blamed for an annual average of six deaths, 16 civilian injuries and \$16.2 million in property damage.

<http://ktla.com/2016/12/19/san-bernardino-fire-officials-issue-warning-over-christmas-trees/>

Fire officials remind residents to properly dispose of natural cut trees

Jose Quintero, Daily Press

Posted: December 19, 2016, 3:05 PM



As Christmas Day approaches, fire officials advise residents to "promptly" remove trees from their home and properly dispose of them once the holiday passes. Dan Gleiter, PennLive.com

VICTORVILLE - As Christmas Day approaches, fire officials advise residents to "promptly" remove trees from their home and properly dispose of them once the holiday passes.

Dried-out Christmas trees are a fire danger and should not be left in a home, garage or placed outside against a home, **San Bernardino County Fire Department** spokesman Louis Penna said Monday.

Penna also warns residents to not burn Christmas trees in a home fireplace.

"Christmas trees can burn explosively, putting your family and property at risk when burned in-home," Penna said. "The pitch in the wood creates huge, fast-moving sparks that can jump right out of the fireplace and into your room, or up the chimney and onto the shingles of your roof potentially causing a fire."

A safe alternative is "chipping" a tree and using it as mulch, Penna said.

Beginning Dec. 26 and through Jan. 6, single-family residents serviced by Burrtec can place trees curbside on their normal collection days for pickup.

CR&R Disposal customers in Wrightwood and Phelan can also place their trees out on regular service days from Dec. 26 through Jan. 15.

Residents in Hesperia and in unincorporated areas serviced by Advance Disposal will have Christmas tree pickups from Jan. 2 through Jan. 27. Customers in Spring Valley Lake will be able to drop their trees off at a designated roll-off, provided by Advance Disposal. For location of the roll-off an Advance Disposal employee said residents should contact the Spring Valley Lake Association.

Customers can also drop off Christmas trees at the Advance Disposal yard, located at 17105 Mesa St., from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays. The drop off is free for customers, however, there is a fee for customers with flocked Christmas trees.

All trees over 6 feet will need to be cut in half in order to be picked up during curbside service. All ornaments and lights must be removed.

Waste management officials remind their residential and commercial customers that due to the Christmas and New Year's Day falling on a Sunday this year, there will be no delay in service for the weeks of Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. Customers will be serviced on their normal collection day.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20161219/fire-officials-remind-residents-to-properly-dispose-of-natural-cut-trees>

Man Allegedly Commits Second Assault While Deputies Are Investigating First Assault

Chuck Wyatt, Alpenhorn News

Posted: December 16, 2016

Sheriff's deputies arrested Ryan Richard Dischner, 37, resident of Cedar Glen, after he allegedly assaulted a patron at a local bar, went home and then allegedly also assaulted his neighbor.

In a media release issued by the Twin Peaks Sheriff's Station, it was reported that on December 6, shortly after 6:30 p.m., the Sheriff's Department Emergency Dispatch Center received a 911 call reporting an assault with a deadly weapon at a bar in the 29000 block of Hook Creek Road, Cedar Glen.

The initial call reported that a patron struck another patron in the face with a 16 oz. drinking glass. When deputies arrived at the location, the unidentified suspect had already fled from the scene in an unknown direction.

Deputies started interviewing the victim and witnesses, and reviewed the business' security video. The collected statements and video revealed that the attack was unprovoked.

The deputies' report indicates that the victim suffered approximately a half dozen superficial cuts to the left side of his face and had a contusion to his left eyebrow from the assault. Medical personnel from the **San Bernardino County Fire Agency** responded and provided medical treatment to the victim at the scene.

While the deputies were still at the bar conducting their investigation, another 911 call was received at the Sheriff's Departments Emergency Dispatch Center from a residence in the 29100 block of South Lane, Cedar Glen. The reporting party on this call related that they could hear their neighbors yelling and things breaking.

Deputies responded to the South Lane address, arriving shortly after 7:00 p.m., contacting Ryan Dischner, and his neighbor, whose identity is not being released. According to statements obtained, Dischner reportedly arrived home and started creating a disturbance. When his neighbor came outside to see if Dischner was all right, Dischner allegedly attacked him with a folded metal chair, striking the victim several times in the head and body. From statements obtained, the attack appeared to be unprovoked.

The victim from the South Lane assault reportedly sustained swelling to his right hand, lacerations to the inside of his right upper lip; and redness and swelling to the back of his head. Medical personnel from the San Bernardino County Fire Agency responded and provided medical treatment to the victim at the scene.

While conducting their investigation, deputies noted that Dischner matched the description of the outstanding assault suspect from the earlier assault at the bar. A witness from the previous assault was brought to the scene, an in-field line up was conducted, and Dischner was positively identified as the suspect from the bar.

Dischner was booked at the West Valley Detention Center in Etiwanda for two counts of violation of California Penal Code Section 245 (a) (1), (assault with a deadly weapon). Dischner's bail was set at \$50,000.

On December 8, Dischner was arraigned in the Superior Court and was formally charged with two counts of assault with a deadly weapon and one count of burglary. The San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office added a sentencing enhancement. Dischner entered a not guilty plea and Superior Court Commissioner Ronald J. Gilbert scheduled a Preliminary Hearing for December 20 and appointed the San Bernardino County Public Defender's Office to provide legal representation to Dischner. Gilbert raised Dischner's bail to \$175,000.

If convicted of assault with a deadly weapon, as the sole conviction, the maximum penalty is imprisonment in the state prison not to exceed four years, a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or by a combination of imprisonment and fine.

If convicted of burglary, as the sole conviction, the maximum penalty is imprisonment in the state prison not to exceed six years.

If the sentencing enhancement is authorized by the court, an additional three consecutive years, served after the completion of any other sentence, will be added to the sentence.

Anyone with additional information about the case should contact the Twin Peaks Sheriff's Station (909) 336-0600. Callers wishing to remain anonymous are urged to call the We-tip Hotline at 1-800-78-CRIME (27463) or you may leave information on the We-Tip Hotline at www.wetip.com.

<http://alpenhornnews.com/man-allegedly-commits-second-assault-while-deputies-are-investigating-first-p7721-172.htm>

Man dies from injuries suffered in Rialto house fire

John M. Blodgett, Press Enterprise

Posted: December 19, 2016, 4:32 PM



A 48-year-old man died Sunday night, Dec. 19, after being hospitalized with injuries suffered in a house fire in the 200 block of North Palm Avenue.

The man was identified as Rufus Wade, 48, of Rialto Monday by the San Bernardino County Coroner's office.

Wade suffered second- and third-degree burns and required CPR at the scene, Rialto police Sgt. Richard Royce said.

The fire was reported at 5:14 p.m., according to Rialto Fire Department Division Chief Sean Grayson. Firefighters found the flames throughout the interior including the attic, but had the blaze under control by 5:28 p.m., he said.

Wade was the only person found inside the house, Rialto police Lt. Robert Smith said. He was transported by ambulance to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center where he later succumbed to his injuries, according to a coroner's news release.

Firefighters from **San Bernardino County** joined Rialto firefighters at the scene.

Rialto Fire Department is investigating the fire.

<http://www.pe.com/articles/avenue-821237-rialto-injuries.html>