



# Peterborough Fire Services

## Media Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 1, 2011  
Peterborough, ON --

### Fire-Safe Holiday Season

The holiday season is underway and many people have begun shopping, baking, tree trimming, decorating, and getting together with family and friends.

Each year, many tragic residential fires occur during the holiday season and most of these are preventable. To ensure your holiday does not turn into a disaster, please follow these important fire safety precautions:

- Teach children to stay away from candles, fireplaces, trees and space heaters.
- Buy the freshest, greenest Christmas tree you can find.
- Add water each day, always keeping the water level of the reservoir above the cut.
- Examine light strings for wear or damage each year before re-using them. Replace worn sets.
- Turn light strings off before you go to bed and when you leave the house.
- Discard the tree when it begins to turn brown or dry out.
- Run all outdoor cords above ground, keeping them out of puddles and snow.
- Keep candles away from combustible decorations and displays.
- Never leave candles burning unattended or within reach of pets or small children.
- Never leave stove top cooking unattended.
- Keep a multi-purpose dry chemical fire extinguisher on hand.

Peterborough Fire Services reminds everyone to ensure your own carbon monoxide and smoke alarms are in good working condition, and recommends that you check the alarms of elderly family and friends when visiting their homes.

This information is also available on our City of Peterborough website at [www.peterborough.ca](http://www.peterborough.ca).

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For further information please contact the undersigned:  
Maureen Crowley, Peterborough Fire Services  
210 Sherbrooke Street  
Peterborough, ON K9J 2N3  
705-745-3284  
[mcrowley@peterborough.ca](mailto:mcrowley@peterborough.ca)