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Candle with Care



Ready or not the Holiday Season is here as well as all the festivities that go along with it. People all over will gather with family and friends to celebrate the holidays and reminisce about the year that has been and wonder what is in store for us in the year to come. One of things that you can almost always count on during this time of year is seeing a candle as part of the Holiday décor. For more than 5,000 years candles have been used as a source of light and to illuminate celebrations. While they are no longer used as a major source of light, they continue to grow in popularity and use. Today, candles serve to symbolize celebration, soothe the senses, and accent home décor.

The most recent data reported by the National Fire Protection Association states that yearly there is an average of 8,200 home structure fires that are started by candles. These fires cause an annual average of 80 deaths, 770 injuries and \$264 million in direct property damage. Below are some candle fire facts and tips to make sure that you don't become a statistic this Holiday Season.

Candle Fire Facts

- Candles cause 2% of reported home fires, 3% of home fire deaths, 7.5% of home fire injuries and 4% of the direct property damage in home fires.
- On average, 23 home candle fires were reported per day.
- December is the peak time of year for home candle fires. In December 12% of home candle fires began with decorations compared to 4% the rest of the year.
- 37% of home candle fires started in bedrooms. These fires cause 30% of the associated deaths and 50% of the associated injuries.
- 60% of home candle fires occurred when some form of combustible material was left or came too close to the candle.

Safety tips when using Candles

- Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- Keep candles at least 1 foot away from anything that can combust or burn.
- Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over.
- Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface.
- Light candles carefully, keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- Never burn a candle all the way down, put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- Have flashlights and battery powered lighting ready to use during a power outage, never use candles.
- Never leave a child alone in a room with a burning candle. Keep matches and lighters up high and out of children's reach, in a locked cabinet.

Candles are nice to look at and cast a warm glow for all to enjoy. However, they can also be the cause of a home fire. It is important to remember that a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that it comes in contact with.

Until next time my friends, be prepared and stay safe!!!

All of us at the Gerloff Company would like to wish you and your family a Happy and Safe Holiday Season!!

December 2019

Events

- December 4: IASA Holiday Luncheon
- December 5: ACA Luncheon
- December 6: SA BOMA Holiday Luncheon
- December 6: CE Class
- December 6: SAABE Holiday Party
- December 11: SA BOMA Sporting Clay Tournament
- December 12: IREM Holiday Luncheon
- December 13: IWSA Holiday Luncheon
- December 19: CAMO
- December 25: Christmas Day

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 IASA Luncheon	5 ACA Luncheon	6 SABOMA Luncheon CE Class SAABE Holiday Party	7
8	9	10	11 SA BOMA Sporting Clay Tourn	12 IREM Holiday Lunch	13 IWSA Holiday Luncheon	14
15	16	17	18	19 CAMO	20	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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