

Oregonians love candles. In some households, you'll find candles in every room. But an unattended, abandoned or casually placed candle can quickly cause a devastating fire. Be aware, keep an eye on burning candles.



Preventing Candle Fires

Candles have become a popular decorating item throughout our homes. Oregonians use them in the dining room, around the living room, in bedrooms, and even bathrooms. On a national level, seven out of ten households use candles, and the amount of candles sold each month is going up. Yet many people don't realize how quickly something can go wrong. An unattended, abandoned or casually placed candle can cause a devastating fire, death or injury. Follow these simple tips to prevent a candle fire from occurring in your home.

SAFETY TIPS

Blow out all candles before leaving the room or before going to sleep.

Keep candles away from things that can burn. Keep candles at least one foot away from clothing, curtains, upholstered furniture, greenery, decorations and any other flammable items.

Always use a sturdy metal, glass or ceramic candleholder. Make sure the candleholder is big enough to collect dripping wax.

Place candles out of reach of small children and pets.

Trim wicks to one-quarter inch before lighting.

Avoid candles with items embedded in them such as twigs, flowers or leaves. These items can ignite or even explode.

Adopt these tips as candle safety rules in your home.