



CITY OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

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“Winter Break Fire Safety Tips”

The week of February 18-22 is mid-winter break for our schools in Jefferson County.

Many children who are mature enough will remain home unsupervised while their parents are working. The City of Watertown Fire Department Public Education Office would like to inform our community about safety tips to remember not just during this week, but throughout the year.

Be sure all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are in working order. Batteries should have been changed when we changed our clocks, but this is a friendly reminder in case it was forgotten. Replace the batteries or install a detector NOW if needed before you leave children home alone unprotected!!

Basic Safety for young adults:

- Be trained and understand when and how to use 911
- Keep matches and lighters away from all children to eliminate the temptation involving curiosity and experiments
- Teach your kids about cooking safely and burn prevention
- Never leave burning candles unattended
- Review microwave safety instructions for the proper types of dishware to be used

Electrical Safety:

Flipping a light switch, plugging in a coffeemaker, charging a laptop or cell phone is all second nature for most of us. However, we need to be cautious and keep safety in mind:

- Only one heating appliance is to be plugged into a receptacle outlet
- Major appliances should be plugged directly into a wall outlet. Extension cords and plug strips should not be used with larger appliances
- Check electrical cords to make sure they are not running across doorways or under carpets. Extension cords are intended for temporary use only

Heating Safety:

There is something about the winter months and curling up with a good book by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths? With a few simple safety tips you can prevent most fires.

- Keep anything that can burn including wet gloves, hats, snow pants and boots at least three (3') from any heat source
- Have your heating appliances professionally inspected annually
- Be sure all portable heating appliances are supervised when in use