



STATE FIRE MARSHAL MESSAGE

FIRE PREVENTION-FIREFIGHTER SAFETY

Excellence in Public Safety



Louis Kilmer, Acting Director
Acting State Fire Marshal

Charles A. Richman, Commissioner
Department of Community Affairs

December

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HOLIDAY SAFETY ONLINE

CLICK THE GRAPHIC TO DOWNLOAD THE VIDEO



Social media has become an excellent ally in the pursuit of community risk reduction. Download the above video to your social media site and include the facts below.

- Between 2011-2015, U.S. fire departments responded to an average 200 home fires that started with Christmas trees per year. These fires caused an average of 6 deaths, 16 injuries, and \$14.8 million in direct property damage annually.
- On average, one of every 32 reported home fires that began with a Christmas tree resulted in a death, compared to an average of one death per 143 total reported home fires.
- Electrical distribution or lighting equipment was involved in two of every five (40 percent) of home Christmas tree fires.
- In one-quarter (26 percent) of the Christmas tree fires and in 80 percent of the deaths, some type of heat source, such as a candle or equipment, was too close to the tree.
- One quarter (24 percent) of Christmas tree fires were intentional.
- Forty-two percent of reported home Christmas tree fires occurred in December and 37 percent were reported in January.

