



PRESS RELEASE

Contact:

Steve Tullis, PIO
Hinsdale Fire Department
stullis@villageofhinsdale.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Firefighters Hope for Another Red Wreath Holiday Season

Hinsdale, IL – The Hinsdale Fire Department will once again team up with the Illinois Fire Chief's Association and neighboring fire departments in the "Keep the Wreath Red" program. This year, the program will run through January 9. "Keep the Wreath Red" is a holiday fire safety program designed to increase fire safety awareness. A holiday wreath will hang just inside the Hinsdale Fire Station's Mini Museum, which is the small building located near the entrance of the main fire station at 121 Symonds Drive in Hinsdale. In the event of a holiday-related fire, firefighters will replace one of the red bulbs with a white one. The goal is to keep the bulbs on that wreath red during the holidays. Fire safety reminders for a safe holiday season include:

- Check all your illuminated decorations to make sure they are in good condition. Light strands that have frayed or cracked wires should be thrown away and replaced with UL approved devices. Outside cords should be approved for exterior uses and inside cords should not be placed under carpets or throw rugs.
- Keep live Christmas trees watered frequently. Be aware of your tree's life and when it becomes brittle, discontinue using the lights. Always turn off the lights when leaving your home.
- Make sure your fireplace is in good working order and the chimney is free from obstructions and creosote build-up. Christmas wrappings and tree branches are not to be burned in the fireplace. Their intense and rapid burning can cause chimney fires and flames to extend out of the firebox into your home.
- Be careful with candle use. Never leave a candle unattended and always place them out of reach from children and pets.
- Do not overload extension cords or outlets with excessive holiday lights. Follow the manufacturers' recommendations. Also, be conscious of where you place extension cords. Keep them away from heaters, out from underneath rugs and anywhere else that they may become damaged.
- As always, check your smoke detectors and make sure they are in good working order. If you did not change the batteries when you changed your clocks on daylight saving time, change them now.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact the Hinsdale Fire Department at (630) 789-7060 or fire@villageofhinsdale.org