



**City of Alamogordo**  
**Alamogordo Fire Department**  
619 Texas Avenue, Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310  
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With the onset of the holiday season, the Alamogordo Fire Department would like to remind everyone that it's important to focus on fire safety and prevention. The celebration of the season brings with it increased usage of kitchen appliances, electric lights, candles, space heaters, fireplaces and of course deep fryers. Listed below are some important points to remember and follow to have a fire-safe Holiday Season:

### **IMPORTANT SAFETY TIPS TO REMEMBER**

#### ***Kitchen***

- When you fry, grill, or broil food, always stay in the kitchen.
- Maintain a child and pet free zone at least three (3) feet from all cooking appliances.
- Turn pot handles away from the stove's edge.
- Keep a lid and oven mitt nearby when you are cooking to use in case of a grease fire. If you have a grease fire, slide the lid over the pan. Turn off the burner and leave the pan covered until it is completely cool.

#### ***Turkey Fryers***

- Completely thaw and dry turkey before cooking. Partially frozen and/or wet turkeys can produce excessive hot oil splatter when added to oil.
- Place fryer in an open area away from walls, fences, or other structures, and keep fryer in full view when burner is on.
- Never operate fryer in, on, or under breezeways, garages, carports, porches, or any structure that can catch fire.
- Always raise and lower food slowly.

***Follow the manufactures instructions to determine the proper amount of oil to add. If instructions are not available:***

- Place turkey in empty pot.
- Fill pot with water until the turkey is covered by about 1/2 inch of water.
- Remove and completely dry turkey.
- Mark existing water level. Dump water, completely dry pot, and fill with oil to the marked level.

#### ***Candles***

- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from walls, curtains, decorations or other materials that may burn.
- Extinguish all candles when you leave the room or go to sleep.
- Never leave a child or a pet alone with a burning candle in the room.
- Burn candles in a stable, noncombustible holder.

#### ***Fireplaces***

- Have your chimney inspected at least once a year and cleaned and repaired as often as necessary.
- Always use a fireplace screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room.
- Allow ashes to cool completely before disposing of them.
- Store removed ashes in tightly covered metal containers, never in boxes or bags.

*Portable Space Heaters*

- Improperly used space heaters are one of the leading causes of home fire deaths.
- Keep portable space heaters at least three feet away from walls, curtains, bedding or other materials that may burn.
- Turn off portable space heaters when you leave the room. Never leave them on when you go to bed.

**The Alamogordo Fire Department wishes you and your family a wonderful Holiday Season.**

**REMEMBER OUR MAIN GOAL IS TO**

**STAY SAFE**

**AND**

**ALWAYS STAY FIRE SMART**