



HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: HFD Public Affairs, 713-495-7900

HFD Reminds Citizens About Candle Safety

Since the beginning of this year, there have been at least four fires caused by unattended candles, resulting in more than \$85 thousand in structural damage. HFD highly recommends using battery operated lighting sources, such as flash lights, before resorting to candles or other flame-use devices for light.

Citizens always need to be cautious when using candles by following some simple safety tips:

- Never leave a candle burning, using them with only with constant adult supervision.
- Keep candles away from items that can catch fire, such as clothing, paper or curtains.
- Place candles in secure candle holder which are meant to be use for holding candles. Make sure candleholders are non-combustible and large enough to collect the dripping wax.
- Place candleholders on a secure piece of furniture.
- Do not place candles in windows where blinds or curtains can close over them.
- Keep wicks trimmed to 1/4 inch and extinguish candles when they burn to within 2 inches of the holder.
- Keep candles and all open flames away from flammable liquids. Do not use candles in places where they can be knocked over by children or pets.
- Always check with your apartment management to see if you are allowed to use candles.
- Always have a working smoke detector!

For additional safety tips, citizens may visit the HFD website at www.houstonfire.org



**Help Us Help You.
Working Smoke Detectors Save Lives!**

