

Fire Safety Tips for the Winter

Pelham Fire Services is reminding residents to please be extra vigilant as you try to keep your home warm during the current frigid temperatures. Extreme wind chills are expected in our area from minus 35 to minus 40 Celsius overnight tonight and into Tuesday morning.

"People need to be careful while heating their homes," Pelham Fire Chief Bob Lymburner said. "Heating equipment is involved in 1 in every 7 reported home fires and 1 in every 6 home fire deaths."

Because the risk of house fires increases when temperatures plummet, Pelham Fire Service urges you to please keep these heating safety tips in mind:

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like a fireplace, wood stove, radiator or space heater.
- Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.
- Keep portable generators outside, away from windows and as far away as possible from your house.
- Install and test your carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.
- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year. Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home/deck and any nearby buildings.
- Never use a charcoal or gas barbecue inside your home (including the garage), as even a small amount of the carbon monoxide that is produced can seriously harm you and your pets.

For additional information, please contact:
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