



RAM FLASH POINTS

December 2019

Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



Picking the tree

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



Placing the tree

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2 inches from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents, or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



Lighting the tree

- Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read the manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

Information produced by:



**NATIONAL FIRE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**

The leading information and knowledge resource on
fire, electrical and related hazards



After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS



More than **one of every four** home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems.



Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.



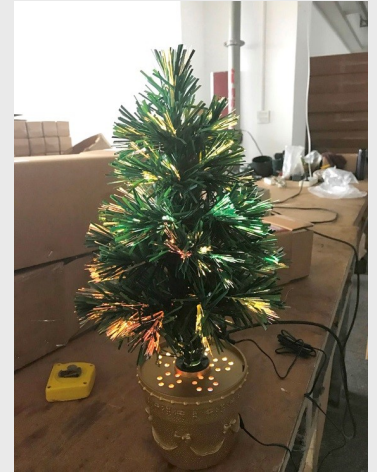
A heat source too close to the tree causes **one in every four** of the fires.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION FIRE SAFETY RECALLS

MELVILLE DIRECT RECALLS FIBER OPTIC CHRISTMAS TREES DUE TO FIRE HAZARD

The *Consumer Product Safety Commission* has released the recall of Bits and Pieces Fiber Optic indoor plug-in Christmas tree. The full foliage branches have fiber optic light strands that change color. Each tree comes with an AC power adapter that is attached to the gold tone colored base that holds the tree in place. The AC power adapter plugs into a standard household outlet. The 18-inch tall tree item number is 43560 and weighs about three pounds. The 31-inch tall tree item number is 43559 and weighs about four pounds. The item number can be found on the UPC barcode label on the box.

Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled power adapters, unplug them from the Christmas tree and contact Melville toll free at 1-866-503-6395 for a full refund and free shipping. Melville is contacting purchasers directly.



SEASONAL SPECIALTIES RECALLS PRE-LIT CHRISTMAS TREE SOLD EXCLUSIVELY AT MENARDS

The *Consumer Product Safety Commission* has released the recall of Seasonal Specialties Pre-Lit Christmas trees due to fire hazard. The electrical components of the tree's light string can overheat and melt, posing fire, burn, and shock hazards to consumers. Nearly 1,800 of these trees were sold for around \$300 at Menards stores nationwide and online at www.menards.com.

Consumers should immediately unplug and stop using the Christmas tree and return it to Menards for a refund.



NANTUCKET DISTRIBUTING RECALLS PRE-LIT CHRISTMAS TREES DUE TO FIRE HAZARD

The *Consumer Product Safety Commission* has released the recall the of 6.5-foot tall Nantucket Pre-Lit Globe Light Colorado Spruce Christmas tree. The fuse on the pre-lit tree can overheat and blow, posing a fire hazard. Nearly 600 of these trees were sold at Christmas Tree Shops and That! store for approximately \$150. The SKU/UPC is 31738736 and is located on the price tag affixed to the product packaging.

Consumers should stop using immediately and contact Christmas Tree Shops at 888-287-3232 or bargains@christmastrees.com.

