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## **From the Office of the Fire Marshal**

### ***Keeping Warm in the Winter Months and Smoke Detection.***

The Limerick Township Fire Marshal's Office would like to share some helpful tips when it comes to alternative home heating methods during this cold time of year. The Limerick Township Fire Marshal Office's number one priority is the safety of the residents and the community of Limerick Township. For any questions, please contact the Emergency Services Department at [aleal@limerickpa.org](mailto:aleal@limerickpa.org). Our personnel will be able to assist you with your questions regarding alternative methods for home heating and/or smoke detection and carbon monoxide detections.

Now for some helpful tips and information, please reference the following when trying alternative methods for home heating:

- When utilizing a space heater never plug them into an extension cord, surge protector, or multi-plug adaptor.
- When utilizing a space heater plug them directly into a wall outlet and remember all space heaters must have a minimum clearance of 3 feet from any combustible materials.
- Space heaters should only be used as a temporary heat source. They are not intended for permanent use which may cause overheating and pose a fire danger.
- Always remember to check your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detector batteries every six months but monthly checks are recommended.
- Smoke detector and Carbon Monoxide detector locations:
  1. One in every bedroom
  2. One in every common habitable space in the household
- A good rule of thumb for smoke detector placement is if two rooms are separated by a door then both rooms should have their own smoke detector.
  1. One Carbon Monoxide detector per floor in common spaces i.e. basements, living rooms & hallways outside of bedrooms.
- The maximum life span of a smoke detector or carbon monoxide detector is seven (7) years, after that, they should and must be replaced.
- Remember when utilizing a household extension cord, especially around the holidays for decorations, that they are intended for temporary use and should be treated as such and not used for permanent wiring.
- If utilizing candles please try to use the battery-operated, and much safer version, than the original. If you must

use the original candles please remember, never leave them unattended or in close proximity to combustible materials.

- Make sure that your address numbers are clearly posted and visible from the street so that help (if needed) can find you right away.

- Have a family evacuation plan and practice that evacuation plan in the event of an emergency. Remember to GET

OUT AND STAY OUT.

- **IN THE EVENT OF ANY EMERGENCY PLEASE FIRST DIAL 9-1-1 TO START HELP RIGHT AWAY.**

The Limerick Township Fire Marshal's Office would like to wish everyone a SAFE and happy holiday season and if you need any help or questions answered about fire safety in your home, the Limerick Township Fire Marshal's Office is only a phone

call away. Thank you for your attention to safety always and especially during the holiday season!