



Space Heater Safety Reminders



The time of year has come once again where the temperatures are below freezing and it is time many people start to dig out the space heaters for supplemental heat. We would like to provide you with some simple safety reminders while using your space heater.

Electric Space Heater

- Be familiar with the unit you are using as well as the instruction manual that accompanies it.
- Make sure to inspect the unit as well as the cord to ensure proper working order before you plug it in. Never use damaged units.
- Make sure the unit does not have any build up of dust or any other particles as this may cause a fire.
- Avoid using an extension cord with your unit if at all possible. The unit should plug directly into a receptacle. If this is not able to be accomplished be sure to use an extension cord that is rated for 1.25 times the wattage for your unit.
- Be sure to unplug your unit when not in use.

Combustion Space Heater

- Inspect your heater for damage.
- Should only be used outdoors. When used indoors they can cause serious injury or death.
- Only fill the unit after it is cool.
- Should be used in well ventilated areas.
- Use only approved fuels for your unit.
- Make sure the unit and the fuel are turned off when not in use.
- Barbeques are not approved heating units

Considerations for all space heaters

- Make sure that if children are around that they are supervised while the heater is in use. Also remind children not to put their fingers or any other objects through the metal guard as this may cause serious injury or start a fire.
- Make sure that it is only used in safe environments that are at least three feet from any combustibles.
- Space heaters should not be used to thaw out frozen pipes as this is the cause of many fires every year.

We hope these tips will help you stay safe this winter with your space heaters. If you have any questions please feel free to call the fire department at 509-244-3322.