

Use Candles Safely

- Extinguish all candles when leaving the room or when going to sleep.
- Keep candles away from items that can catch fire such as clothing, books, paper, curtains, Christmas trees, flammable decorations or anything that burns.
- Make sure candles are placed on a secure piece of furniture in sturdy holders that won't tip over. Holders should be made from material that can't burn.
- Make sure the candleholder is big enough to collect dripping wax.
- Don't place lit candles in windows, where blinds or curtains can close over them.
- Do not use candles in places where they could be knocked over by children or pets.
- Keep candles and all open flames away from flammable liquids.
- When purchasing or using candles, consider what would happen if the candle burned low. Could it burn the candleholder or decorative material nearby? Extinguish candles when they get within two inches of the holder or decorative material.

Where young children are present:

- Keep candles up high out of the reach of children.
- Never leave a child unattended in a room with a candle.
- A child should not sleep in a room with a lit candle.
- Keep all matches and lighters up high and out of the sight and reach of children, preferably in a locked cabinet.

If You Must Use Candles During Power Outages

Flashlights and other lights generated by batteries are much safer light sources than candles.

Observe all the general candle safety tips. Also:

- **Try to avoid carrying a lit candle. When you carry a candle, you are carrying something that could start a fire. Don't use a candle to go into a closet to look for things.**
- **Never use a candle for light when fueling equipment such as a kerosene heater or lantern. The flame may ignite the fumes.**
- **Extinguish all candles when leaving the home or when going to sleep.**

From "Candle Fires in U.S. Homes" - NFPA Fire Analysis and Research, Quincy, MA