



Top Low-Temp Tips from the Franklin Fire Department

STAY SAFE WHILE SLEDDING – WEAR A HELMET

A young adult was seriously injured by sledding into a tree in Franklin on 2-17-2015. When firefighters arrived the individual was unresponsive and exhibiting signs of a traumatic brain injury.

PREVENT FROZEN PIPES

Let cold water drip from the faucet and open cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around pipes.

THAW FROZEN PIPES SAFELY

To safely thaw frozen pipes use an electric hair dryer. Never use a blowtorch, kerosene or propane heater, charcoal stove, or other open flame device. If you are unable to locate the frozen area, if the frozen area is not accessible, or if you cannot thaw the pipe, call a licensed plumber.

USE ALTERNATIVE HEATING SOURCES SAFELY

Portable Electric Space Heaters

- Space heaters need space – keep them at least three feet away from anything that can burn.
- Plug power cords directly into outlets and never into an extension cord.
- Turn heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.

Fuel-burning Space Heaters

- Always use the proper fuel as specified by the manufacturer.
- When refueling, allow the appliance to cool and refuel outside or in a well-ventilated area.
- If the pilot light of your gas heater goes out, allow 5 minutes or more for the gas to go away before trying again, do not allow gas to accumulate, and light the match before you turn on the gas to the pilot to avoid risk of flashback.
- If you smell gas in your gas heater, do not attempt to light the appliance. Turn off all the controls and open doors and window. Call 911.

Wood-burning Fireplaces, Wood and Pellet-burning Stoves

- In wood stoves and wood-burning fireplaces, burn only dry, seasoned wood. In pellet stoves, burn only dry, seasoned wood pellets.
- Start the fire with newspaper or kindling. Never use a flammable liquid, such as lighter fluid, kerosene or gasoline.
- Keep the doors of your wood stove closed unless loading or stoking the live fire.
- Have a sturdy screen on a fireplace.
- Allow ashes to cool before disposing. Dispose of ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep the ash container at least 10 feet away from the home and any other nearby buildings. Douse and saturate with water.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST, HAVE WORKING SMOKE ALARMS AND CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS!