



# Fire District 4

## FIRE & RESCUE

Serving North Spokane County

3219 E. Chattaroy Rd.  
Chattaroy, WA 99003  
509-467-4500  
[www.scfd4.org](http://www.scfd4.org)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 19, 2016  
Contact: Chief Randy Johnson, 467-4500

#### **Be prepared and safe this winter**

Chattaroy, Wash. – During the winter months, being prepared means being safe. Fire District 4 wants to remind residents of some key safety preparation tips.

#### **Decorate safely for the holidays**

Your home can be warm and inviting, and safe as well. Make sure lights are UL listed (they should have a tag affixed to the string). Use the manufacturer's requirements as a guide to know how many lights can be strung together. Keep Christmas trees at least 3 feet from a heating source, and remove the dry tree as soon as possible after Christmas. Make sure all smoke detectors in your home are in working order. Smoke detectors are available for free to District 4 residents – call 467-4500 for more information.

#### **Keep a home emergency kit**

Ensure that your cell phone stays charged and that you have extra portable chargers in the event of a power outage. If you run a generator, keep it outside at least 20 feet from the home. Keep extra food, pet and baby items, and flashlights with extra batteries in your home. These should be kept in a location that can be reached by every adult member of the household. For more information, visit the Greater Spokane Emergency Management website, [www.GSEM.US](http://www.GSEM.US).

#### **Use alternative heating sources safely**

Portable and alternative heating sources need their space. Keep anything combustible at least 3 feet away. Alternative heating sources include portable electric heaters, heat lamps, and heat tape to name a few. Never use fuel burning appliances without proper room venting – burning fuels can be a source of toxic fumes.

#### **Help prevent falls – yours and others'**

Keep your driveway and walkways around your home clear of snow and ice. Sprinkle sand or de-icer on icy surfaces, and keep it up as the snow falls. Wear appropriate footwear when venturing outside. Although winter comes as no surprise for most of us, being prepared can help you stay safe and healthy when temperatures fall. For more winter safety tips, go to [www.scfd4.org](http://www.scfd4.org).

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*Spokane County Fire District 4 provides fire suppression and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to 45,000 people over 330 square miles in north Spokane County, including the city of Deer Park. Volunteer and part-time firefighters respond to more than 3,100 emergency calls per year; 77 percent on average are for EMS. Fire District 4 is proud to operate under a balanced budget and has passed all financial and accountability audits by the state. Find Spokane County Fire District 4 on Facebook and Twitter @SpokaneCoFire4 or visit the web site at [www.scfd4.org](http://www.scfd4.org).*