



# Fire District 4

## FIRE & RESCUE

*Serving North Spokane County*

3219 E. Chattaroy Rd.  
Chattaroy, WA 99003  
509-467-4500  
[www.scf4.org](http://www.scf4.org)

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### Winter safety tips from SCFD4

#### **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.

#### **Hypothermia**

If working or playing outside, keep your head warm and stay dry if possible to avoid hypothermia. Check on vulnerable neighbors and the elderly who are mu susceptible to cold temperatures. Signs and symptoms of hypothermia include shivering, slow speech, fatigue and confusion. If you suspect someone is hypothermic, call 911, and protect them from further cold.

#### **Keep hydrants clear**

Check the hydrants closest to your home – they should have a 3-foot area around them clear of snow and other obstructions.

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