

DETROIT FIRE DEPARTMENT

# BEYOND FIREFIGHTING



## Fire Prevention Week Charge into Fire Safety

The Detroit Fire Department (DFD) sends a huge thank you to everyone who joined us for our annual Fire Prevention Week events! We had over 900 attendees. Educating our residents on fire prevention and safety is one of our top priorities. This year, we tackled the safe use and handling of lithium-ion batteries. These power sources are everywhere, and understanding their risks is essential for every household. To cap off a highly successful week, we were proud to give away 50 fire extinguishers and 50 carbon monoxide detectors to raffle winners who attended our Fire Prevention Week events, helping more Detroiters stay safe.



## Halloween in the D A Spooky Good Time



This year, the City of Detroit celebrated its eighth annual Halloween in the D. This spooky good time continues to grow in popularity every year, attracting thousands of residents! More than a million pieces of candy are given out at our firehouses, police precincts and recreation centers each year. The Detroit Fire Department proudly hosted DDOT's spooky bus at Engine 30 on Meyers again this year, much to the delight of so many families!

We gave out many pieces of candy and got to see so many great costumes. The real treat was connecting with residents and helping make sure Halloween is celebrated safely by all!



## A \$10.7M Investment ➤ In Public Safety

Last month, the Detroit Fire Department announced a \$10.7M investment in public safety as we unveiled 10 brand new fire engines, 13 new ambulances, three new Battalion Chief vehicles, and three new EMS Supervisor vehicles.

Over the past ten years, DFD has made extraordinary progress in replacing its aging fleet, moving from unreliable, decades-old equipment to a modern fleet with industry-leading technology. Keeping the fleet in top condition is key to maintaining the department's Code 1 Medical Response times under 7 minutes and 30 seconds, which is significantly better than the national average.



## Celebrating Breast Cancer Awareness Month



October is not just for Halloween. Every year DFD marks Breast Cancer Awareness Month by adding pink ribbons to our fleet.

We are proud to stand with those we've lost and those who are still fighting this battle. This small gesture is one way we show our unwavering support and solidarity.

# Holiday Safety Tips

## Candle Safety

December is the peak month for candle fires in homes. With the holidays in full swing and the temperatures dropping, many people light their favorite candles, but improper candle use can be dangerous! Follow these candle safety tips to prevent home fires.

- More than  $\frac{1}{3}$  of candle fires start in the bedroom
  - Blow out all candles before sleeping
- Use sturdy candle holders
- Many candle fires start when candle is too close to things that can easily burn
  - Candles need at least one foot around clear to be safe
- Avoid burning a candle all the way down



## Deep Frying Turkey

November kicks off Holiday cheer, as families prepare to cheer on the Lions over their Thanksgiving turkey! Everyone loves deep-fried food, especially turkey, but using a deep fryer puts you at the greatest risk of cooking fires. We encourage residents to follow these safety tips to keep you and your loved ones safe.

- Thaw your turkey completely before cooking or frying!
  - A partially frozen turkey will cause cooking oil to splatter when you put it in the cooking pot.
- Turkey fryers can tip over easily, spilling hot cooking oil over a large area.
- Make sure your fryer is at least 10 feet from your home and not under an overhang.
- Without thermostat controls, deep fryers can overheat oil to the point of starting a fire.
  - If your turkey fryer does not have a thermostat, use a kitchen thermometer that attaches to the side of the pot.



## Christmas Tree Safety

Christmas is right around the corner, and so is one of December's most iconic traditions, decorating the Christmas tree. Follow these Christmas tree safety tips to ensure nothing goes awry this holiday season.

- If you opt for a natural tree, make sure you regularly water it to keep it from becoming a fire hazard.
- Avoid using lit candles on or near trees.
- Don't overload outlets (especially when plugging in Christmas lights).
- Do not leave holiday lights on unattended – turn them off when you go to sleep or leave your home.

**See how fast  
an Xmas  
tree burns!**



# Home Heating Safety

**DID YOU KNOW?** Across the US, nearly eight out of ten home fire deaths were caused by **heating equipment**.

## Space Heaters

## Handle With Care

- Place space heaters on a flat surface.
- Space heaters should be at least three feet away from flammable items, such as drapes, clothes, and bedding.
- Have a five-foot "kid-and pet-free zone" around space heaters.
- Plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet, rather than a surge protector.
- Keep space heaters out of the way of foot traffic and don't block an exit.
- Turn space heaters off when you leave the room and before you go to sleep.



## Carbon Monoxide

## The Silent Killer

- Carbon monoxide (CO) alarms should be installed low to the ground, near CO producing appliances such as gas heaters, dryers, and furnaces.
- Check CO detectors monthly.
- Your home can fill with CO if a stove or oven is used as a heating source.
- Gas and charcoal grills can produce CO, and should only be used outside.
- Ensure anyone hired to inspect or repair your heating equipment is a qualified professional.



## DETROIT FIRE Department

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@DetroitFire

@FireDFD

detroitmi.gov/fire

Detroit Public Safety Headquarters  
1301 3rd Street  
Detroit, MI 48226

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**Billing/Permits**  
(313) 596-2963

### Comments

(313) 596-2954,  
9-1-1 (After Hours)

**Plans And Exams**  
(313) 596-2788

### Knox Box Info

(313) 596-2937

### Freedom Of Information Act

**(F.O.I.A.) Requests**  
(313) 596-2948

**Fire Reports/Inspections**  
(313) 596-2964

**EMS Billing Questions**  
(888) 987-3605

**EMS Medical Records**  
(313) 596-5180

**Regional Training Center**  
(313) 237-2775

**Community Relations Division**  
(313) 596-2959

**\*Online payments:**  
You will need your invoice  
#Detroitmi.gov/fire

**Business organizations & community groups who want to meet your district fire inspectors call**  
(313) 596-8892