



The Office of Fire Safety and Injury Prevention Education

8501 Veterans Highway Millersville, MD 21108 410-222-8303

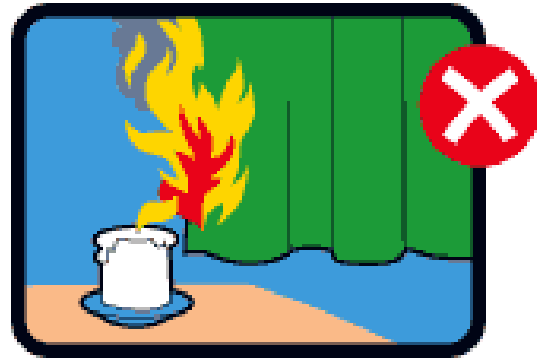
www.aacounty.org

Use Candles With Care

Candle Safety Tips

Facts and Figures

- Thirty-eight percent (38%) of home candle fires started in the bedroom, resulting in 41% of the associated civilian deaths.
- December is the peak time of year for home candle fires. In December, 13% of home candle fires began with decorations compared to 4% the rest of the year.
- More than half of all candle fires started when something that could burn, such as furniture, mattresses or bedding, curtains, or decorations, was too close to the candle.
- Falling asleep was a factor in 12% of home candle fires and 26% of the associated deaths.
- The top five days for home candle fires were Christmas, Christmas Eve, New Year's Day, New Year's Eve, and Halloween.



Checklist

- Keep candles at least 12 inches from anything that can burn.
- Use sturdy, safe candleholders.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended. Extinguish candles when you leave a room.
- Be careful not to splatter wax when extinguishing a candle.
- Avoid using candles in bedrooms or sleeping areas.
- Always use a flashlight, not a candle for emergency lighting.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.

Install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Test them monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.

Fact Sheet