



Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection

1111 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457 • (860) 685-8000

CONNECTICUT FIRE ACADEMY URGES EXTRA CARE ON HALLOWEEN

With Connecticut experiencing extremely high fire danger levels due to prolonged dry conditions, the Connecticut Fire Academy is urging residents to take extra precautions to prevent wildfires. As we head into Halloween, it is essential to prioritize fire safety in all outdoor activities and decorations to protect our communities and natural landscapes.

This Halloween, let's keep safety in mind!

The statewide fire danger remains very high, and open flames can quickly ignite dry leaves, grass, or brush, leading to potentially devastating fires. We strongly recommend avoiding the use of candles and opting for battery-powered lights to illuminate pumpkins, decorations, or other outdoor displays.

Safety Tips to Prevent Wildfires:

- 1. Use Battery-Powered Lights** – Instead of open-flame candles, use battery-operated lights to safely illuminate pumpkins, lanterns, or other displays.
- 2. Keep Decorations Away from Combustible Materials** – Ensure that any decorations are kept far from dry grass, leaves, or other flammable materials.
- 3. Avoid Bonfires and Fire Pits** – During high fire danger levels, it's best to avoid recreational fires, bonfires, or open burning. Check for local burn bans before any outdoor fires.
- 4. Dispose of Smoking Materials Properly** – If you smoke, make sure to extinguish and dispose of smoking materials responsibly. A single spark can ignite a wildfire in dry conditions. Dispose of cigarette butts, ash, and other hot items in secure, fire-safe containers. Fire-safe container - galvanized steel metal container that can be covered
- 5. Report Any Fires Immediately** – If you see any signs of a wildfire, call 911 immediately. Early intervention can make a significant difference in controlling a fire's spread.

"Let's make this a safe and enjoyable Halloween by being fire-aware," said Jeff Morrisette, State Fire Administrator "With small adjustments, we can all celebrate responsibly and help prevent wildfires during these high-risk conditions."

For more information, or to set up an interview with Fire Academy officials, contact Rick Green, 860-539-0159, richard.green@ct.gov.