

## **HOLIDAY DECORATIONS & DOOR DECORATIONS**

## AS YOU BEGIN TO ENJOY THE HOLIDAY SEASON, PLEASE FOLLOW THESE FIRESAFETY GUIDELINES TO ASSURE A FIRE SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON:

- 1. State Regulations prohibit the use of natural cut Christmas trees in Board and Care occupancies (group homes with 4 residents or more) and Health Care Occupancies \*(ref. CSFSC Part V-10.15). However, balled trees are allowed in these occupancies.
- 2. Artificial metal trees should have only indirect lighting due to the potential shock hazard.
- 3. Non-metallic flame retardant approved trees may be directly lighted.
- 4. Decorations shall be so located as to not impede nor obstruct any stairs, doorways or means of egress.
- 5. Locate any tree and all decorations a safe distance from all sources of heat.
- 6. No combustible or flammable materials shall be used for interior decorations. This includes, but is not limited to evergreen branches, paper or fabrics, etc.
- 7. Candles or open flame shall not be used in a Board and Care or Health Care, and should be discouraged in other occupancies.
- 8. All sources of temporary wiring (decorative lights), shall be tested and listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory (i.e. U.L.).
- 9. All exterior electrical outlets utilized shall be "ground fault" protected.
- 10. No wiring shall be permitted to pass through doors or windows, under rugs or exposed in any manner to injury by wear, tear and/or chaffing.
- 11. All sources of illumination should be turned off at night or when the building is unoccupied.
- 12. Staff MUST consider their individual occupants, applying discretion and common sense regarding amounts, types and locations of decorations in the interest of client safety.
- 13. Your Local Fire Marshal and Southbury Training School Fire Department are always available for consultation and questions. Find out if it is approved BEFORE you put it up!
- 14. All staff should assure that building EXITS (doorways, door swings, fire escapes, etc.) are kept clear of snow and ice during storms.

THE STS FIRE DEPARTMENT WISHES EVERYONE A SAFE AND JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON!

