

Heating Safety Tips from Isle of Palms Fire Department

- ♣ All heaters need space. Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- ♣ Keep kids and pets away from open fires and space heaters.
- ♣ Turn off portable heaters when leaving the room or going to bed.
- ♣ Never use an oven to heat your home.
- ♣ Use heating equipment with the label of a recognized testing laboratory and automatic shut-off so that if they tip over, they shut off.
- ♣ Place space heaters on a solid, flat surface, and keep them and their electrical cords away from things that can burn, high traffic areas, and doorways.
- ♣ Plug space heaters directly into wall outlets and never into an extension cord or power strip.
- ♣ Inspect any heater for a damaged cord, broken plugs, or loose connections. Replace them before using the space heater.
- ♣ If you use fuel-burning space heaters, use the proper fuel as specified by the manufacturer.
- ♣ When refueling, allow the appliance to cool first and then refuel outside.
- ♣ When using a fuel-burning space heater, open a window to ensure proper ventilation.
- ♣ If you smell gas in your gas heater, do not light the appliance. Leave the building immediately and call 9-1-1.
- ♣ Allow ashes to cool before disposing of them. Place ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep the ash container at least 10 feet away from the home and any other nearby buildings. Never empty the ash directly into a trash can. Douse and saturate the ashes with water.