



STATE OF OHIO
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NEWS RELEASE
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*****Special Bulletin*****
Preventing Fire Hazards

The National Safety Council urges consumers to follow these rules for portable generator safety:

- Always read and follow the manufacturer's operating instructions before running generator
- Engines emit carbon monoxide. Never use a generator inside your home, garage, crawl space, or other enclosed areas. Fatal fumes can build up, that neither a fan nor open doors and windows can provide enough fresh air.
- Use a battery-powered carbon monoxide detector in the area you're running a generator.
- Gasoline and its vapors are extremely flammable. Allow the generator engine to cool at least 2 minutes before refueling and always use fresh gasoline.
- Don't refuel your portable generator around combustibles.

The National Candle Association urges consumers to follow these rules for candle safety:

- Always keep a burning candle within sight. Extinguish all candles when leaving a room or before going to sleep.
- Never burn a candle on or near anything that can catch fire. Place candles at least 3 feet away from drapes, bedding, carpets, books, paper, flammable decorations, etc.
- Keep candles out of the reach of children and pets. Don't place lighted candles where they might be knocked over by children or pets.

Power Companies urge consumers to follow these rules for handling downed power lines:

- If you see a power line on the ground, stay at least 10 feet away from the wire and secure the area to keep others away, too. If you discover a low or fallen line, do the following:
- A live wire touching the ground can cause electricity to travel through the ground, radiating outward from the contact point. **STAY CLEAR!**
- **DO NOT** attempt to remove a tree limb or other object from a power line. Electricity can travel through limbs, especially when they are wet. When cleaning up after the storm, make absolutely sure that no power lines are near before cutting or trimming damaged trees and removing debris from your property.