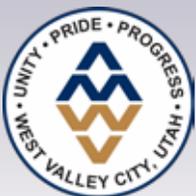




www.wvc-ut.gov/fire
www.wvcert.org

West Valley City
Fire Department
Fire Prevention Division
(801) 963-3336



Fire Safety

SPACE HEATERS

Ten Rules for Safe Use



The space heater is a major cause of fire and burns. Be aware of the following hazards when buying and using gas, wood, kerosene and electric space heaters. Fires and burns can be caused by contact with or close proximity to the flame, heating element, or hot surface area. Fires and explosions can be caused by flammable fuels or defective wiring. Indoor air pollution can be caused by improper venting or incomplete combustion of fuel-burning equipment. Carbon monoxide poisoning can be caused by improper venting of fuel-burning equipment. However, space heater-caused fires and other hazards can be prevented.

Check out these ten space heater safety rules:

1. When selecting a heater, look for one that has been tested and certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
2. Do not operate a space heater if it is damaged.
3. Check the power cord for fraying, kinks and cuts before turning a space heater on.
4. Do not place cording under carpeting in order to keep it from being damaged.
5. Place a space heater on a flat, noncombustible surface.
6. Keep space heaters at least three feet away from anything flammable or combustible (i.e., gasoline, curtains, rugs, furniture, newspaper, blankets or clothing).
7. Do not operate a space heater in walkways and exits where they can be tripped on, burn pedestrians or start a fire if tipped over.
8. Do not use an extension cord with your space heater.
9. Do not leave an operating space heater unattended. Turn it off and unplug it when you leave the room or go to sleep.
10. Do not leave children or pets alone with an operating space heater.

ALWAYS follow the space heater manufacturer's instructions.