



Hurricane Sandy has left thousands of New Yorkers without power and home heating. Here are some safety tips you can use to **KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE.**

PORTABLE SPACE HEATERS



The use of kerosene or propane space heaters is strictly prohibited and illegal to use in New York City.

- ◆ Kerosene and propane space heaters pose a high risk of death and injury, and generate carbon monoxide.
- ◆ **Only use portable electric heaters that are certified and approved by a recognized testing lab, such as UL.**



- ◆ Keep portable heaters at least three feet away from combustible materials, such as blankets, curtains and newspapers.
- ◆ Never leave portable heaters unattended, and never leave the house or go to bed without turning off the heater.

PORTABLE GENERATOR USE

- **Be sure to place the generator outdoors where exhaust fumes will not enter an enclosed space.** Never place generators indoors as generators create carbon monoxide (CO).

- Carbon Monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas and is the second leading cause of accidental poisoning.
- Ensure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are in proper working order.



- Do not connect your generator directly to your home wiring system.
- Use a certified heavy-duty, extension cord to connect your generator to an appliance.
- Extension cords come in a variety of sizes known as gauges. The most common gauges are 18,16,14,12 &10. The lower the gauge the more electrical current (amps) the wire can carry.
- Do not overload the generator. Do not exceed the electrical output rating of the generator.
- Power strips and surge suppressors do not provide more power, just access to the same limited capacity of the generator.
- Shut off the engine before refueling and have a charged extinguisher located near the generator.
- Do not smoke or use any item that can cause a spark anytime you are refueling a generator.
- Use only approved gasoline storage containers.

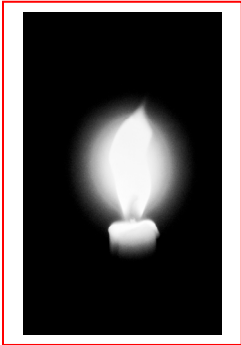




Fire Department, City of New York FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION

CANDLE FIRE SAFETY

Candle fires are on the rise. While other causes for home fires have decreased, the percentage caused by candles has tripled in the past ten years.



These candle fires were preventable!

How does a little flame become so dangerous?

More than 33 % of candle fires occurred when the candles were left unattended or abandoned. Roughly

25 % of the fires occurred because something combustible such as curtains or paper was too close to the flame. Half the people killed by candle fires in the home were younger than 20, with most of the victims between the ages of 5 and 9.



UNATTENDED CANDLES = FIRE DANGER

CANDLE SAFETY CHECK LIST



If you burn candles for decorative or ritual purposes, make your home safer:

- ◆ use candles with flame protective non-combustible shades or globes.
- ◆ use a sturdy metal, glass or ceramic candle holder.
- ◆ avoid the use of candles with embedded combustible decorative items.
- ◆ place candles at least 4 feet away from curtains, draperies, decorations, blinds and bedding.
- ◆ place candles out of reach of small children and pets.
- ◆ refrain from using decorative/floral candle rings.
- ◆ extinguish candles before leaving the room.
- ◆ extinguish candles when they burn within two inches of the holder.
- ◆ never leaving burning candles unattended.

Candles should always be placed out of reach of children and don't allow teens to have candles in their bedrooms.

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, DO NOT USE CANDLES TO LIGHT YOUR HOME.

One-third of the people killed in candle fires were using them for light due to no power.

- Use flashlights and batteries available in your home.
- Have the flashlights readily accessible in the kitchen and bedroom.
- Carry a flashlight in your car and a small light on your person.



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK**
9 METROTECH CENTER
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201-3857

Issued By
**FDNY FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION UNIT &
FDNY OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION**
www.nyc.gov/fdny
www.fdneyfoundation.org

