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March 22, 2019

Spring Thaw Prompts Fire Safety Tips from State Fire Commissioner

Harrisburg, PA – With the arrival of spring and warmer temperatures, State Fire Commissioner Bruce Trego is offering Pennsylvanians seasonal fire-safety tips to assist them with annual spring cleaning chores.

“Winter can be tough on a home and those that live in it, but don’t let that excitement get in the way of making smart decisions about fire safety,” Fire Commissioner Trego said. “Spring is a great time to start thinking about the necessary precautions one should be taking around and outside the home to protect against fire-related hazards and the dangers of house fires.”

Inside the home, it is important to think about removing fire hazards:

- Test your home’s smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Discontinue the use of any electrical appliances with frayed cords, and make sure they are not extended under rugs or other flammable materials.
- Water often leaks into homes during the winter months; it is a good idea to check for water around electrical appliances as well.
- Take a moment to inspect the lint trap and exhaust duct of the clothes dryer for debris.

It is also important to take extra safety precautions outside the home:

- Remove dead leaves and other flammable debris from around foundations and from under decks, porches or stairs.
- Outdoor work areas such as garages and tool sheds should be kept organized, and flammable materials should be stored in fire-rated containers away from children
- Grills should be checked for rust, insects, spiders, grease and other debris before use.
- Worn gas hoses should be replaced.
- Never grill indoors, in a garage, breezeway or carport. Grills should only be used 10 feet away from your house or any building.

For more seasonal fire safety tips, visit www.BeFireSafePA.com

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