

La Grange Park Fire Department Monthly Report December 2013



Contents

- Overall Summary / Highlights**
- Incident Report Summary**
- Significant Fire Report**
- EMS Division Summary**
- Fire Prevention Division Summary**
- Operations / Training Division Summary**
- Incident Report Detail**
- Correspondence**

Village Board Meeting Fire Department Activity Memo

To: Julia Cedillo, Village Manager

From: Dean J. Maggos, Director of Fire & Building 

Date: January 20, 2014

Re: Fire Department Activities – DECEMBER 2013

As requested for insertion into the Village Board meeting agenda packet, the following is a brief summary of Fire Department activity highlights for the month of December. As usual, a more comprehensive monthly report is kept within the department for your review.

There were 144 EMS responses this month and 1520 YTD. Last year, there were 1467 YTD at this time. There were 48 fire/rescue incidents this month, and 471 YTD. Last year, there were 461 YTD at this time.

On December 14th, personnel assisted with the Holiday in the Park event at the Park District. Santa was delivered on one of our Engines, and we conducted a fire safety discussion and presentation.

During the month, the Fire Department participated in the Keep the Wreath Red program, by displaying lighted red wreaths at both fire stations. They serve as visual reminders to residents to take additional safety precautions during the season to make it a safe one, as any fires caused by holiday decorations would result in a red bulb being replaced by a white one. I am happy to report that there were no such fires in our Village this year, and the wreaths remained red.

12/04 (WED) 10:18 AM: Responded to an electric oven arcing in an apartment at 1640 Barnsdale.

12/09 (MON) 06:00 AM: Responded with an engine and chief to assist La Grange with a commercial building fire at 111 Kemman.

12/16 (MON) 10:46 PM: Responded with an engine, ambulance and chief to assist Brookfield with a house fire at 4343 Blanchan. Five people were transported to the hospital as a result of such.

12/18 (WED) 10:46 PM: Responded for a gas leak concern at the American Nuclear Society located at 555 N. Kensington. It appears a pressure relief was venting, and Nicor was contacted to evaluate.

12/19 (THUR) 5:53 PM: Responded for carbon monoxide alarms activating at a home in the 1200 block of Alima Terrace. Upon investigation found extremely high levels of CO throughout the home, which appeared to be related to furnace problem. Crews shut off gas to the home and ventilated it to safe levels.

12/21 (SAT) 11:01 PM: Responded to gas found leaking in a home in the 600 block of Catherine. It appeared to be caused by a stove burner being left on earlier in the day and the flame went out while residents were not home.

12/25 (WED) 9:26 PM: Responded with an investigator to assist Pleasantview with a mobile home fire in Countryside.

12/27 (FRI) 8:18 PM: Responded for a carbon monoxide alarm sounding at a home in the 300 block of Catherine. Crews found elevated levels of CO coming from a problem with a boiler.

Incident Reports By Incident Type, Summary

Page 1 of 1

Incident Type	Total Incidents:
111 Building fire	2
132 Road freight or transport vehicle fire	1
311 Medical assist, assist EMS crew	5
321 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	136
322 Vehicle accident with injuries	2
412 Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	2
424 Carbon monoxide incident	3
445 Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	1
500 Service Call, other	1
511 Lock-out	1
571 Cover assignment, standby, moveup	1
611 Dispatched & canceled en route	11
712 Direct tie to FD, malicious/false alarm	1
733 Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	1
736 CO detector activation due to malfunction	3
740 Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	4
743 Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	1
745 Alarm system sounded, no fire - unintentional	3
746 Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	5
Total Number of Incidents:	184
Total Number of Incident Types:	19

Print Date: 1/20/2014

**LAGRANGE PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT
SIGNIFICANT FIRES - 2013**

DATE	TYPE OF OCCUPANCY	ADDRESS	ESTIMATED LOSS	MOST PROBABLE FIRE CAUSE
01/09	Single-Family (Washing Machine)	738 Forest Rd.	\$ 0	Overheated Motor
03/18	Van (In driveway next to garage)	1522 Morgan	\$ 1500	Undetermined
04/06	Car (In garage, owner pushed outside)	609 Kensington	\$ 300	Undetermined
05/28	House (Electrical damage)	1202 Homestead	\$ 200	Power lines down in yard
06/09	Senior Life Care (dining room table)	315 N. La Grange	\$ 30	"Sterno" type warming burner knocked over
07/02	Single-Family (Washing Machine)	406 E. Harding	\$ 100	Overheated Motor
07/22	County Maintenance Facility	26th & Beach	\$ 3000	Heat from cutting/welding
08/06	Multi-Family (Cooking)	1249 Homestead	\$ 50	Unattended
08/15	Single-Family (Rags)	900 Spring	\$ 100	Spontaneous Heating - oily rags
08/23	Single-Family (Cooking)	729 Barnsdale	\$ 20	Overheated cooking oil

**Significant Fire - All fires and potential fires in and around structures, or other fires resulting in greater than \$5,000.00 damage.
Last Updated - 12/31/13**

**LAGRANGE PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
RESPONSE ACTIVITIES – DECEMBER 2013**

NATURE OF CALL:

Cardiac	008
Injured Person	035
Medical Emergency	068
Road Accident	002
Respiratory	012
Assist Patient	010
Mutual Aid Given	009
EMS Stand-by	000

OUTCOME OF SERVICES:

Treated/Transported	106
Refused Services	022
Assist Patient Only	010
Other	003

LEVEL OF CARE PROVIDED:

Advanced (ALS)	075
Basic (BLS)	031
Refused Care	022
Other	013

TRANSPORT FACILITIES:

LaGrange Hospital	086
Loyola Medical Center	010
Hinsdale Hospital	007
MacNeal Hospital	002
Good Samaritan Hospital	001
Hines VA Hospital	000
Elmhurst Hospital	000
Not transported	035

RESPONSE ACTIVITY:

Total Calls – Month	144
Total Calls – YTD	1520
Total Patients – Month	141
Total Patients – YTD	1546

BILLING INFORMATION:

Invoices issued this month	088
Invoices received this month	051

LOCATION OF CALL:

Commercial	001
Educational	
Brook Park School	001
Forest Road School	000
Nazareth Academy	000
Park Junior High School	000
St. Louise School/Church	001
Industrial	000
Bethlehem Woods Complex	
Residential Towers	021
Assisted Living Center	011
Institutional	
OLB Center	002
The Grove Health Care	004
Plymouth Place	031
Residential	
Single Family	046
Multi Family	011
Miscellaneous	
Mutual Aid Given	009
Police/Fire Station	004
Street/Road/Park	002
Unclassified/Other	000

MUTUAL AID ACTIVITY:

Provided to:	
LaGrange	006
Brookfield	001
Westchester	001
Broadview	001
Received from:	
LaGrange	004
Western Springs	003
Brookfield	002

Rick Ronovsky

Submitted by:
Rick Ronovsky, Division Chief
EMS Division


Approved by:
Dean Maggos, Fire Chief



LA GRANGE PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT

447 N. Catherine Avenue
La Grange Park, Illinois 60526

(708) 354-0225 Administration
(708) 352-2141 Non-Emergency
(708) 354-0241 FAX

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT – DECEMBER 2013

Ambulance Responses:

This month, EMT and Paramedic personnel responded to a total of 144 requests for emergency medical services treating a total of 141 patients. There were 116 calls located west of the IHB Railroad and 19 calls east of the IHB Railroad. Year to date, there have been a total of 1520 requests for service and 1546 patients receiving care.

This compares to last year (December 2012) when there were 160 requests for service and a year to date total of 1467 calls.

Training and Continuing Education:

EMS Continuing Education for this year was completed in October. The month of December was used to make up any outstanding classes.

Special Activities:

There were no EMS related Special Activities.

Rick Ronovsky

Submitted by:
Rick Ronovsky, Division Chief
EMS Division



Approved by:
Dean J. Maggos, Fire Chief

Fire Prevention and Education Activities for December, 2013

Fire Prevention and Education was conducted by Division Chief Carpenter, Lt. Norvilas, FF Hulten and FF McManus

➤ Members conducted 6 Fire Inspections at the following type of occupancies:

- Residential: 1
- Commercial: 1
- Education: 0
- Industrial: 2
- Institution: 0
- Municipal: 1
- Office: 1

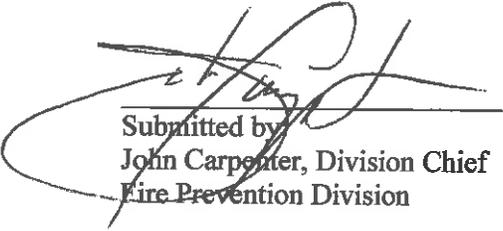
➤ Members noted 3 violations of the Village Fire and Life Safety code as follows:

- Alarm Systems: 0
- Fire Extinguishers: 0
- Electrical: 0
- Combustible Storage: 1
- Flammable Storage: 0
- Life Safety: 1
- Other: 1

➤ Members conducted 0 re-inspections with 0 of 0 outstanding violations corrected.

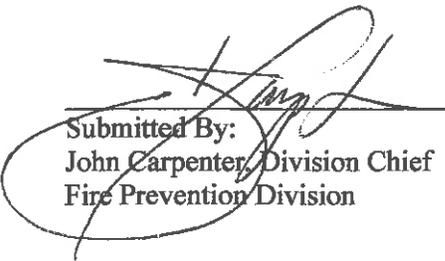
➤ The Department responded to 8 Fire alarm activation's during the month.

- Malicious: 3
- Malfunction: 4
- Smoke / Fire: 0


Submitted by
John Carpenter, Division Chief
Fire Prevention Division


Approved By
Dean J. Maggos, Fire Chief

- D/C Carpenter conducted a final fire occupancy and hydro inspection at the Grove, 701 LaGrange Rd following basement remodeling.
- D/C Carpenter conducted hydro testing for the new residential sprinkler system at 21 Brewster.
- D/C Carpenter conducted hydro testing for the new residential sprinkler system at 1 Stonegate residence.
- D/C Carpenter conducted final occupancy inspection for 1638 Finsbury.
- D/C Carpenter conducted hydro testing for the new residential sprinkler system at 627 Kensington.
- D/C Carpenter conducted hydro testing and rough inspection for residential sprinklers at 630 Kensington.
- D/C Carpenter received sprinkler plans for review for 1245 Barnsdale.
- D/C Carpenter conducted a pre occupancy inspection for 1013 E 31st.
- D/C Carpenter continues to receive request for lock box applications and continues to place keys in new boxes throughout the village.
- D/C Carpenter continues entering pre incident survey information in the new CADZONE program on the village server.
- FF Hulten continues checking all key boxes within the village to ensure they function properly and have current keys.
- Lt. Norvilas continues to work with business owners with problem fire alarms.
- Lt Hurley, Tullis, FF McManus and Hulten continue visiting all business within the village as we continue to update the preplan data.

Submitted By:

 John Carpenter, Division Chief
 Fire Prevention Division

Approved By:

 Dean J. Maggos, Fire Chief

**LaGrange Park Fire Department
Division of Operations & Training
December 2013**

Monthly Training Summary

Regular Training

December 2 & 3	SOG & Pre-plan Review
December 9 & 10	Ropes and Knots
December 16 & 17	Firefighter Safety
December 23 & 24	Maintenance, Small Tools, and Inventory

Training hour totals

	December 2013	2013 YTD
Regular Drill	229.00	3411.50
Other Training	91.00	1453.00

Monthly Operations Summary

Fire Call Activities

	December 2013	2013 YTD	December 2012	2012 YTD
Total Fire Calls	48	471	35	461

Fire Call Mutual Aid Summary

	December 2013 Aid Received	2013 YTD Aid Received	December 2013 Aid Given	2013 YTD Aid Given
Brookfield	2	26	6	56
La Grange	7	79	8	69
Western Springs	0	17	0	1
Other	0	0	2	36
Mutual Aid Totals	9	122	16	162



Submitted by:
Norman Rick, Division Chief
Support / Operations Division



Approved by:
Dean J. Maggos, Fire Chief

Incident Reports By Incident Type

Page 1 of 6

Incident Type: 111 Building fire

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131830	0	12/9/2013	6:00:00AM
131877	0	12/16/2013	5:51:00AM

Total Incidents: 2

Incident Type: 132 Road freight or transport vehicle fire

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131795	0	12/2/2013	10:00:00PM

Total Incidents: 1

Incident Type: 311 Medical assist, assist EMS crew

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131815	0	12/6/2013	11:34:00AM
131846	0	12/10/2013	9:46:00PM
131853	0	12/12/2013	9:46:00AM
131870	0	12/13/2013	10:36:00PM
131908	0	12/19/2013	6:03:00PM

Total Incidents: 5

Incident Type: 321 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131785	0	12/1/2013	12:00:00AM
131786	0	12/1/2013	7:18:00AM
131787	0	12/1/2013	7:23:00PM
131788	0	12/1/2013	8:03:00PM
131789	0	12/1/2013	8:14:00PM
131790	0	12/2/2013	6:23:00AM
131791	0	12/2/2013	10:30:00AM
131792	0	12/2/2013	1:08:00PM
131794	0	12/2/2013	8:26:00PM
131796	0	12/3/2013	3:23:00AM
131797	0	12/3/2013	8:04:00AM
131798	0	12/3/2013	7:53:00PM
131799	0	12/3/2013	11:00:00PM
131800	0	12/4/2013	12:53:00AM
131801	0	12/4/2013	6:10:00AM
131802	0	12/4/2013	9:58:00AM
131803	0	12/4/2013	12:01:00PM
131805	0	12/4/2013	3:05:00PM
131806	0	12/4/2013	3:53:00PM
131807	0	12/4/2013	4:40:00PM
131809	0	12/5/2013	7:49:00AM
131810	0	12/5/2013	3:27:00PM
131811	0	12/5/2013	7:11:00PM
131813	0	12/6/2013	9:31:00AM
131816	0	12/6/2013	1:43:00PM
131818	0	12/6/2013	3:49:00PM
131819	0	12/6/2013	4:06:00PM
131820	0	12/6/2013	5:43:00PM
131821	0	12/6/2013	7:08:00PM
131822	0	12/6/2013	9:59:00PM
131823	0	12/6/2013	10:12:00PM
131826	0	12/8/2013	10:23:00AM
131827	0	12/8/2013	12:59:00PM
131828	0	12/8/2013	5:08:00PM
131829	0	12/9/2013	12:01:00AM
131831	0	12/9/2013	9:06:00AM
131833	0	12/9/2013	10:21:00AM
131834	0	12/9/2013	2:07:00PM
131835	0	12/9/2013	4:21:00PM
131836	0	12/9/2013	7:57:00PM
131837	0	12/9/2013	11:41:00PM
131838	0	12/10/2013	12:08:00AM
131839	0	12/10/2013	12:09:00AM
131841	0	12/10/2013	10:05:00AM
131842	0	12/10/2013	10:57:00AM
131843	0	12/10/2013	3:36:00PM
131845	0	12/10/2013	9:45:00PM
131847	0	12/11/2013	7:47:00AM
131848	0	12/11/2013	4:36:00PM

131849	0	12/11/2013	5:58:00PM
131854	0	12/12/2013	10:22:00AM
131856	0	12/12/2013	12:38:00PM
131857	0	12/12/2013	1:28:00PM
131858	0	12/12/2013	2:24:00PM
131860	0	12/12/2013	7:13:00PM
131861	0	12/13/2013	1:20:00AM
131862	0	12/13/2013	7:26:00AM
131863	0	12/13/2013	11:37:00AM
131864	0	12/13/2013	12:45:00PM
131865	0	12/13/2013	2:43:00PM
131866	0	12/13/2013	4:51:00PM
131867	0	12/13/2013	6:01:00PM
131868	0	12/13/2013	8:02:00PM
131873	0	12/14/2013	6:39:00PM
131874	0	12/15/2013	5:30:00AM
131875	0	12/15/2013	4:31:00PM
131876	0	12/15/2013	9:15:00PM
131878	0	12/16/2013	1:25:00PM
131879	0	12/16/2013	2:59:00PM
131880	0	12/16/2013	4:56:00PM
131881	0	12/17/2013	6:56:00AM
131884	0	12/17/2013	11:34:00AM
131886	0	12/17/2013	2:06:00PM
131889	0	12/17/2013	7:11:00PM
131890	0	12/17/2013	9:31:00PM
131891	0	12/18/2013	12:34:00PM
131892	0	12/18/2013	1:42:00PM
131894	0	12/18/2013	3:15:00PM
131895	0	12/18/2013	4:35:00PM
131896	0	12/18/2013	10:03:00PM
131897	0	12/18/2013	10:19:00PM
131899	0	12/19/2013	3:54:00AM
131900	0	12/19/2013	4:44:00AM
131901	0	12/19/2013	4:52:00AM
131904	0	12/19/2013	9:51:00AM
131905	0	12/19/2013	3:42:00PM
131906	0	12/19/2013	4:27:00PM
131909	0	12/19/2013	11:11:00PM
131910	0	12/20/2013	2:46:00AM
131911	0	12/20/2013	6:57:00AM
131912	0	12/20/2013	9:12:00AM
131914	0	12/20/2013	5:24:00PM
131915	0	12/20/2013	6:05:00PM
131916	0	12/21/2013	1:04:00AM
131917	0	12/21/2013	4:14:00AM
131918	0	12/21/2013	8:41:00AM
131919	0	12/21/2013	9:26:00AM
131920	0	12/21/2013	12:14:00PM
131921	0	12/21/2013	12:21:00PM
131922	0	12/21/2013	12:25:00PM
131925	0	12/21/2013	11:35:00PM

131926	0	12/22/2013	1:39:00PM
131927	0	12/23/2013	12:12:00AM
131928	0	12/23/2013	8:57:00AM
131930	0	12/23/2013	9:11:00PM
131932	0	12/24/2013	7:02:00AM
131933	0	12/24/2013	11:52:00AM
131934	0	12/24/2013	5:28:00PM
131936	0	12/25/2013	12:16:00PM
131937	0	12/25/2013	2:04:00PM
131938	0	12/25/2013	5:46:00PM
131939	0	12/25/2013	6:12:00PM
131941	0	12/26/2013	10:23:00AM
131942	0	12/26/2013	7:57:00PM
131943	0	12/26/2013	10:43:00PM
131944	0	12/27/2013	12:09:00AM
131945	0	12/27/2013	12:48:00AM
131946	0	12/27/2013	2:03:00PM
131948	0	12/28/2013	12:37:00AM
131949	0	12/28/2013	1:51:00AM
131950	0	12/28/2013	6:38:00AM
131951	0	12/28/2013	8:47:00AM
131953	0	12/28/2013	1:26:00PM
131954	0	12/28/2013	5:45:00PM
131955	0	12/29/2013	5:12:00AM
131956	0	12/29/2013	5:36:00PM
131958	0	12/30/2013	2:39:00AM
131959	0	12/30/2013	7:17:00AM
131960	0	12/30/2013	11:37:00AM
131961	0	12/30/2013	10:52:00PM
131962	0	12/31/2013	4:34:00AM
131963	0	12/31/2013	6:32:00AM
131964	0	12/31/2013	8:11:00AM
131965	0	12/31/2013	12:34:00PM
131966	0	12/31/2013	4:29:00PM
131967	0	12/31/2013	5:09:00PM

Total Incidents: 136

Incident Type: 322 Vehicle accident with injuries

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131804	0	12/4/2013	1:23:00PM
131952	0	12/28/2013	11:55:00AM

Total Incidents: 2

Incident Type: 412 Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131898	0	12/18/2013	10:46:00PM
131924	0	12/21/2013	11:01:00PM

Total Incidents: 2

Incident Type: 424 Carbon monoxide incident

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131907	0	12/19/2013	5:53:00PM
131923	0	12/21/2013	6:22:00PM
131947	0	12/27/2013	8:18:00PM

Total Incidents: 3

Incident Type: 445 Arcing, shorted electrical equipment

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131808	0	12/4/2013	10:18:00PM

Total Incidents: 1

Incident Type: 500 Service Call, other

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131940	0	12/25/2013	9:26:00PM

Total Incidents: 1

Incident Type: 511 Lock-out

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131855	0	12/12/2013	12:21:00PM

Total Incidents: 1

Incident Type: 571 Cover assignment, standby, moveup

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131968	0	12/31/2013	9:00:00PM

Total Incidents: 1

Incident Type: 611 Dispatched & canceled en route

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131793	0	12/2/2013	2:07:00PM
131812	0	12/6/2013	12:08:00AM
131832	0	12/9/2013	10:18:00AM
131840	0	12/10/2013	8:28:00AM
131859	0	12/12/2013	2:26:00PM
131872	0	12/14/2013	4:35:00AM
131883	0	12/17/2013	11:20:00AM
131885	0	12/17/2013	1:39:00PM
131893	0	12/18/2013	3:02:00PM
131931	0	12/23/2013	9:59:00PM
131935	0	12/25/2013	4:36:00AM

Total Incidents: 11

Incident Type: 712 Direct tie to FD, malicious/false alarm

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131825	0	12/7/2013	2:44:00PM

Total Incidents: 1

Incident Type: 733 Smoke detector activation due to malfunction

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131887	0	12/17/2013	2:28:00PM

Total Incidents: 1

Incident Type: 736 CO detector activation due to malfunction

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131824	0	12/7/2013	2:06:00AM
131844	0	12/10/2013	9:15:00PM
131903	0	12/19/2013	8:40:00AM

Total Incidents: 3

Incident Type: 740 Unintentional transmission of alarm, other

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131814	0	12/6/2013	11:26:00AM
131817	0	12/6/2013	3:33:00PM
131888	0	12/17/2013	6:03:00PM
131902	0	12/19/2013	8:00:00AM

Total Incidents: 4

Incident Type: 743 Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131913	0	12/20/2013	4:12:00PM

Total Incidents: 1

Incident Type: 745 Alarm system sounded, no fire - unintentional

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131869	0	12/13/2013	10:16:00PM
131882	0	12/17/2013	10:39:00AM
131957	0	12/29/2013	7:55:00PM

Total Incidents: 3

Incident Type: 746 Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO

Incident #	Exp #	Date	Time
131850	0	12/11/2013	9:02:00PM
131851	0	12/12/2013	9:06:00AM
131852	0	12/12/2013	9:25:00AM
131871	0	12/13/2013	10:52:00PM
131929	0	12/23/2013	11:27:00AM

Total Incidents: 5

**Total Number of Incidents: 184
Total Number of Incident Types: 19**



LA GRANGE PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT

447 N. Catherine Avenue
La Grange Park, Illinois 60526

(708) 354-0225 Administration
(708) 352-2141 Non-Emergency
(708) 354-0241 FAX

----- NEWS RELEASE -----

December 2, 2013

Contact: Fire Chief Dean J. Maggos
708-354-0225 x310

La Grange Park Fire Department Reminds Residents to Keep the Wreath Red

The Village of La Grange Park Fire Department is reminding residents to do what is possible to "Keep the Wreath Red" at both Village Fire Stations this Holiday season. The red wreaths are visual reminders to residents to take additional safety precautions during the season to make this a safe and happy one. The wreaths are illuminated red, and one red bulb will be replaced by white bulb, if a fire is directly caused by holiday decorations.

The following are safety suggestions that can help "Keep the Wreath Red"...

Candles

- Remember, a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn.
- Never use candles where they are left unattended. Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed, and avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily, and place them on a sturdy uncluttered surface. Keep them at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.
- Light candles carefully, keeping hair and loose clothing away from the flame.

Christmas Trees

- Christmas Tree fires lead to over 200 home fires per year in the U.S.
- It is safest to use an artificial tree, but be sure it is labeled, certified or identified by the manufacturer as fire-retardant.
- If you choose a fresh cut tree, make sure the green needles don't fall off when touched; before placing it in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk. Add water to the tree stand, and be sure to water it daily.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit, and is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, space heaters, radiators, candles and heat vents or lights.
- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory, and make sure you know whether they are designed for indoor or outdoor use.

- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords, or loose bulb connections. Never connect more strands of lights than the manufacturer recommends.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving the home or going to bed.

Other Holiday Decorations and Holiday Lights

- Never overload electrical receptacles.
- Never use frayed or damaged electrical decorations or extension cords. Don't run extension cords under carpeting or furniture, where they can be damaged or pinched, and result in increased heating and/or electrical arcing.
- Keep all combustible decorations away from heat sources.

Holiday Cooking

In addition to preventing fires caused by Holiday decorations, residents are also urged to use caution during holiday cooking to help prevent fires.

- Stay in the kitchen while you're frying, grilling or broiling food. Keep anything that can catch fire away from the stovetop, and turn it off when you leave the kitchen, even if it's for a short period of time.
- Create a "kid-free safety zone" of at least three feet around the stove and areas where hot food and drinks are prepared or carried.
- If you have a cooking fire, get out quickly! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire. Call 911 immediately after you leave.
- If you do try to fight the fire, be sure others are getting out and that you have access to an exit. Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires, and slide the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop, leaving the pan covered until it is completely cooled. For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the oven door closed.

Important Safety Items

Make sure that during the holidays you don't forget the basics.

- Make sure you have smoke detectors throughout your house and that they work.
- Make sure you have an escape plan, and have practiced it.
- If you do have a fire in your home, get out fast and call 911 from outside.

For questions or additional information, please contact the La Grange Park Fire Department at 708-354-0225.