- Make sure to keep lighters and matches well out of reach of children and teach them about fire safety.
- Santa Claus loves a clean chimney, have yours cleaned for him.
- Keep the area in front of the fire clear of anything that can easily burn & always use a sparkguard
- Due to cutbacks, Santa may not provide batteries. Check in with him before-hand and have a stock. Never be tempted to remove batteries from Smoke or Carbon Monoxide Alarms.
- Remember Smoke alarms & Carbon Monoxide Alarms make good presents!



Further Information

- Create a safety and escape plan for the family to follow in the event of a fire.
 For more information,
- Please visit www.laois.ie and download free fire safety in the home booklets and leaflets via direct QR code or below via https://laois.ie, Services, Emergency Services, Fire Safety Guidelines.
- Free downloadable fire safety in the home leaflets (available in English, Irish, Chinese (Mandarin), Latvian, Lithuanian and Polish) through the link above or scan the QR code below

SCAN ME





Or ring **057 86 92168**and we will send you the fire safety in the home information by post.



LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL FIRE AUTHORITY



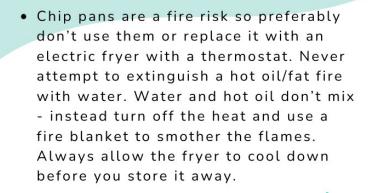




Christmas Fire Safety Advice

Fire crews throughout Laois County Council Fire Authority want to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. The Fire Service also want to remind everyone that this holiday creates additional fire safety risks in the home. To safeguard you and your family this Christmas, Laois County Council Fire Authority want you to be aware of the following fire safety tips.

- A simple fire safety switch you can make during the festive period is to use LED Christmas lights rather than traditional lights for decoration around your home. Remember to never leave your Christmas tree lights plugged in when going to bed or leaving your home, even for a short time.
- Never overload your plug sockets.
- Before putting up lights, check all the wiring for fraying, kinks or broken connections and bin the lights if you find any problems.
- If you are using outdoor lights make sure all wires and connections are rated for the outdoors.
- Never leave pots and pans unattended when cooking (if you must leave the room, be sure to turn the heat off and move the pot or pan to a safe heat resistant surface).
- Remember to always keep the area around your cooker completely free from combustible items such as napkins, tea towels and food packaging.



- It's very easy to forget to blow out candles, especially when leaving a room or at night-time. A simple alternative are LED tea lights. If you must use real candles, make sure they fit securely into candleholders and keep them well away from anything flammable and never place them directly under curtains or decorations. Also consider, could they be knocked down by a pet.
- Make sure to avoid hanging decorations above or near to an open fire or stove.
 Keep your Christmas tree at least 4 feet away from heat sources such as heaters, fires and candles.
- Avoid placing Christmas trees in stairways or halls.
- Remember a large percentage of house fires are as a result of accidents with a cigarette! Make sure your cigarette is completely out, maybe add water to ashtray.

- If you have a real Christmas tree, keep it in a pot of water to stop it from drying out and becoming highly flammable. Keep all electrical wiring away from water.
- If you purchase an artificial Christmas tree, be sure it has a CE safety mark and is flame retardant. Only purchase lights that have the CE safety mark.
- You should have a smoke alarm on each floor of your home, and you should check them regularly. If hard to reach the test button use the handle tip of a sweeping brush to press it.

- If you have a fuel-burning appliance, including an open fire - make sure to have a carbon monoxide alarm installed. You should have an alarm in every room that contains a fuel burning appliance and the rooms air
- Keep a torch and charged phone near you at night. (Never leave your phone plugged in at night!)

