

Bring Your Christmas Celebration to a Safe Conclusion

Take down and recycle your live Christmas tree

After January 1st, even a tree that has been watered and tended to every day will become dried out and present a real fire hazard. A dry Christmas tree will explosively ignite and burn like an indoor forest fire.

The Underwriters Laboratories (UL) also reminds consumers to dispose of their real Christmas trees after four weeks. While none of us like to see the holiday festivities come to an end, it's far more important to protect your family and your home by taking down your dry tree.

Taking down Christmas lights safely

Make certain all lights are unplugged before handling them.

If stools or ladders are necessary make certain they are in good condition and on a solid footing, wear shoes that grip and will not slip on the ladder rungs, do not lean-out or reach beyond a safe balance point and have a friend or family member around to assist you as necessary, especially in case you fall.

Inspect the lights carefully for damage to help prevent a shock or fire hazard next year and properly prepare them for storage.