



CLAY FIRE

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"KEEP THE WREATH RED" WITH HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY

South Bend, IN- As we approach the holiday season, the Clay Fire Territory would like to remind you to keep your holiday safe and happy. Clay Fire Territory is team up with other fire departments across the country in the "Keep the Wreath Red" program. This year, the program will run from Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 26nd) through Saturday, January 2nd, 2010.

Clay Fire Territory will place a wreath, which is illuminated with red bulbs in front of the Fire Station at 18776 Cleveland Road, and also on this website (www.firesafetyzone.org) which is visible to all. "Keep the Wreath Red" is a holiday fire safety program designed to increase fire safety awareness. In the event of a fire, firefighters will replace one of the red bulbs with a white one. The goal is to keep the bulbs on that wreath red.

Clay Fire Territory offers the following tips to help "Keep the Wreath Red" ...

Check all your illuminated decorations to make sure they are in good condition. Light strands that have frayed or cracked wires should be thrown away and replaced with UL approved devices. Outside cords should be approved for exterior uses and inside cords should not be placed under carpets or throw rugs.

Keep live Christmas trees watered frequently. Be aware of your tree's life and when it becomes brittle, discontinue using the lights. Always turn off the lights when leaving your home.

Use extreme caution with holiday candles and all other open flames to assure they are safe and will not set fire to nearby objects.

Make sure your fireplace is in good working order and the chimney is free from obstructions and creosote build-up. Christmas wrappings and tree branches are not to be burned in the fireplace. Their intense and rapid burning can cause chimney fires and flames to extend out of the firebox into your home.

As always, check your smoke detectors and make sure they are in good working order. If you did not change the batteries when you changed your clocks in October, change them now.

We all want to have a safe and happy holiday season. If you have any questions, please contact the Community Service Division at (574) 272-2144 or visit www.firesafetyzone.org and on twitter https://twitter.com/Clay_Fire .

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