College of Engineering  
Safety Standard  
December, 2023  
Information provided by Thomas Kohn, CoE Director for Safety

Safety Starts with you

Enjoy a Safe Holiday Season
From late November to mid-January, when families gather, parties are scheduled and travel spikes, safety should be top of mind.

Traveling for the Holidays? Be Prepared
If you're traveling, be sure your vehicle is in good running condition, get plenty of rest and be prepared for any emergency. Traveling by car during the holidays has the highest fatality rate of any major form of transportation based on fatalities per passenger mile. Hundreds of people die every year in crashes on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, according to Injury Facts. Alcohol impairment is involved in about a third of these fatalities.

Decorate Safely
Decorating is one of the best ways to get in a holiday mood, but emergency departments see thousands of injuries involving holiday decorating every season. When decorating follow these tips from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Watch Out for Fire-Starters Candles and Fireplaces
Use of candles and fireplaces, combined with an increase in the amount of combustible, seasonal decorations in many homes during the holidays, means more risk for fire. The National Fire Protection Association reports on average candles cause 46% of fires annually in December.

CoE Safety:  
Graduate Student Safety Committee (GSSC):  
Previous COE Safety Standards

If you have interest in contributing to the Safety Standard or discuss a safety related item, please contact the CoE safety group at: coesafety@engr.wisc.edu