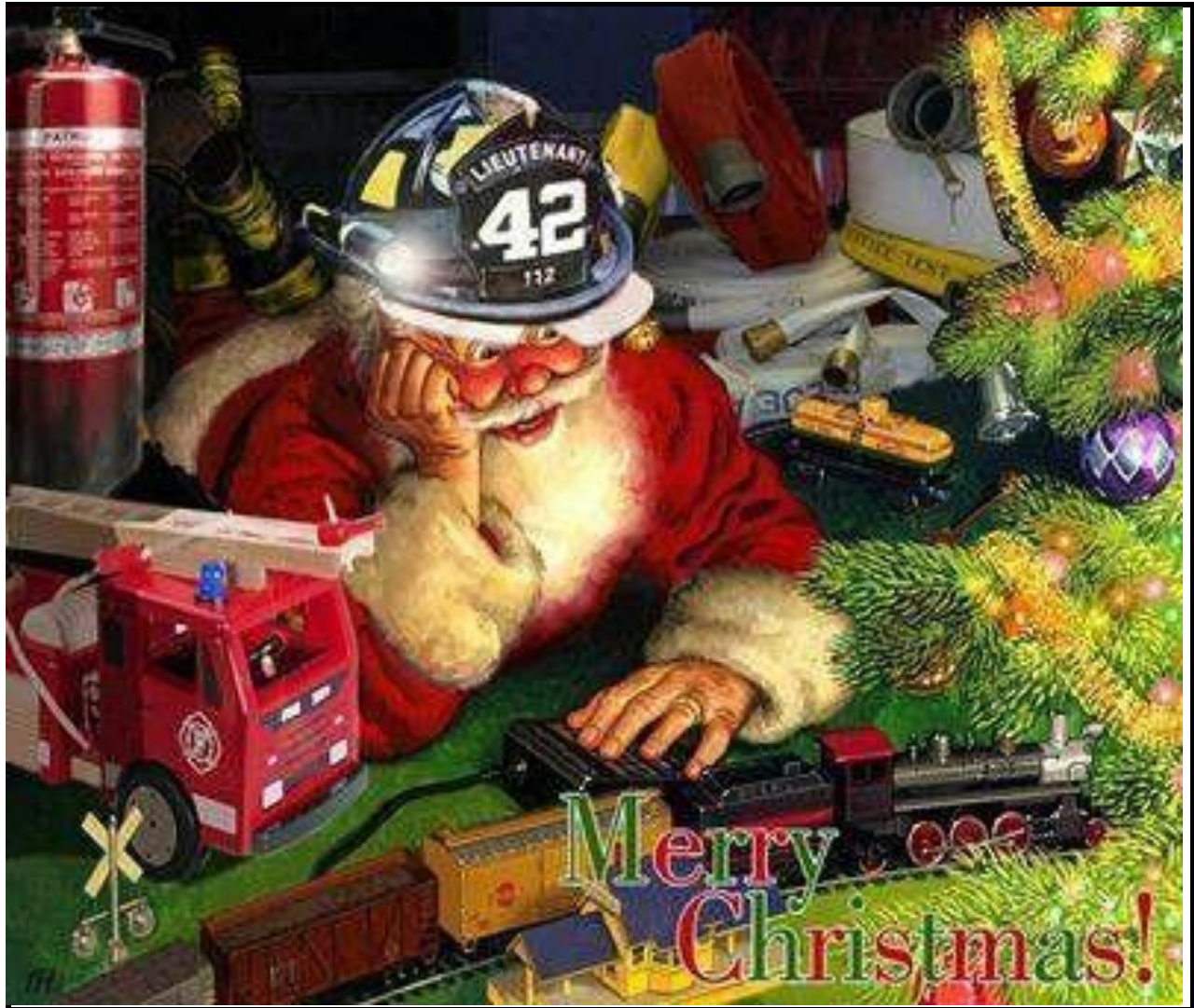


Unity Fire Department Chief's Desk Article

December, 2022 Edition



Written by Chief Blaine Parsons

12 tips for

HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY



1 Water fresh trees daily 	2 Check all lights before decorating	3 Make sure smoke alarms work, replace if 10+ years old
4 Install a carbon monoxide detector- it's now the law	5 Develop and practice a fire escape plan 	6 Use extension cords safely 
7 Give space heaters at least one metre of space	8 Avoid using real candles- go flameless instead 	9 Keep matches and lighters out of kids' reach 
10 Watch what you heat- pay attention to your cooking 	11 Encourage smokers to smoke outside 	12 If under the influence of alcohol, avoid cooking or smoking 

Source: Fire Marshal's
Public Fire Safety Council
safeathome.ca/12days

health.sunnybrook.ca



Holiday safety 101!!!










When people are busy decorating, shopping, entertaining or traveling during the Holiday season, the rush to complete their to-do lists could lead to a lack of emphasis on proper safety practices. These holiday safety tips can help all keep safe and secure during the season

- **Keep your trees hydrated! Check the tree stand water level every other day.**
- **Beware of overloaded electrical outlets and extension cords which are major fire hazards.**
- **Common holiday plants (poinsettias, holly berries, mistletoe or pine needles) can make your pets sick.**
- **Don't leave burning candles unattended**
- **Burning wrapping paper in the fireplace can cause flash fires.**
- **Check smoke alarms to ensure they are working.**
- **Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food to prevent a fire.**
- **Keep a cell phone and portable charger with you at all times while traveling in case of emergency.**
- **Keep extra cold weather gear, food, water, warm clothing, a flashlight, an ice scraper, blankets and medications in your vehicle in case of emergency.**



Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Holiday Fires

It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

 <p>More than half of the home decoration fires in December are started by candles</p>	 <p>More than 1/3 of home decoration fires are started by candles.</p>	 <p>The top 3 days for home candle fires are Christmas Day, New Year's Day and New Year's Eve.</p>
 <p>Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns.</p>	 <p>Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are dangerous.</p> <p>On average, 1 of every 45 reported home Christmas tree fires resulted in death.</p>	 <p>A heat source too close to the Christmas tree causes 1 in every 4 winter fires.</p>
 <p>Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.</p>	 <p>Make sure your tree is at least 3 feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits.</p>	 <p>Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.</p>



For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and www.nfpa.org/winter.

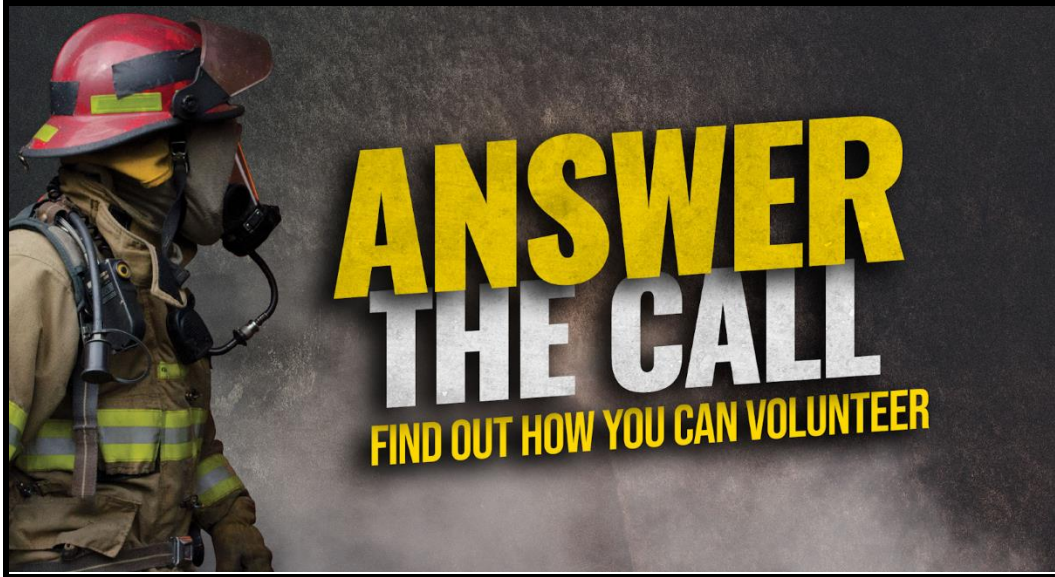
Unity Fire Department Auxiliary

If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary, Please Reach out to President Maureen Haley on facebook instant messenger, or by phone at (207)948-5244 for more information. They are always looking for more people to join.

Incident Responses for November

11/04/22	15:59 hours	Carbon Monoxide/Life-flight Landing	Libby Hill Rd, Unity
11/05/22	12:03 hours	Traffic hazard/Property damage boat	Thorndike Rd, Unity
11/07/22	15:09 hours	Utility Problem/Powerline down	Stagecoach rd, Unity
11/10/22	12:45 hours	Wildfire/Grass Fire	Albion Rd, Unity
11/15/22	07:26 hours	Structure Fire/Residential	Greeley Rd, Freedom
11/17/22	12:32 hours	Fire Alarm/Industrial building	Clifford Commons, Unity
11/19/22	19:12 hours	Agency Assist/ Unity Ambulance	Clark Rd, Unity
11/20/22	09:57 hours	Fire/ Small outside Fire	Palmer Rd, Thorndike
11/27/22	10:46 hours	Agency Assist/ATV Rescue	Welch Rd, Jackson
11/27/22	15:28 hours	Unauthorized Burn/barrel	Waterville Rd, Unity
11/30/22	20:28 hours	Traffic Hazard/Down Tree	School St, Unity
11/30/22	21:03 hours	Traffic Hazard/Down Tree	Fisher Rd, Unity
11/30/22	21:12 hours	Traffic Hazard/Down Tree	Town Farm Rd, Unity
11/30/22	22:05 Hours	Traffic Hazard/ Down Tree	Stagecoach Rd, Unity

Recruitment & Retention



The Town of Unity Fire Department is looking for dedicated men or women to serve the community by being a volunteer/call firefighter. We are looking for personnel who have a desire to serve and are willing to give of their time to help the community and the visitors to our community. The Unity Fire Department is a paid by call department responsible for providing fire protection services to over 2,500 residents in the 52 square miles of the towns of Unity and Unity Plantation limits. The department runs an average of 150 calls annually. Unity Fire Department promotes fire prevention and education, responds to fire, and rescue calls.

The members of Unity Fire Department serve our community day and night. We will provide the opportunity for training and certifications for this adventure.

Do you qualify?

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Have a valid Driver's License, with no major violations
- An acceptable criminal history
- Be in good physical health and able to carry heavy objects
- Be willing to obtain a CPR/AED/First Aid certification
- Act in a professional manner at all times
- Abide by department and towns policies
- Be willing to get up in the middle of the night to help ANYONE

For more information, please contact Chief [Blaine Parsons](mailto:blaine.parsons@unityfiredepartment.com) (207)660-3526 (Cell), or email me at bparsons@unityfiredepartment.com