



# Office of Sheriff County of Ontario

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## Press Release

### **Sheriff Philip Povero offers Christmas Light Safety Precautions**

While we all prepare to decorate our home, both outside and inside, this year for the holiday season, let's remember safety first." The Sheriff offers some simple safety precautions to make our holidays a safer and happier time for all.

Be sure that all the lights are workable before decorating. Test the lights first and replace all old or broken bulbs.

Before wrapping the lights around the tree or house, examine the wires to be certain that none are frayed or exposed. Use only waterproof lights outdoors.

Be careful to eliminate all loose wires by tacking down the wires before placing them in an outlet to avoid anyone tripping over them.

When decorating the tree, put the lights on first. Don't place ornaments or decorations near the bulb itself. The bulb will become extremely hot when lit – even for a short period of time.

Never allow the bulbs to become too hot. Check the lights from time to time, and if they are too hot, turn the lights off for a period of time.

To avoid any fire hazards in your home, always turn the lights off before going to bed. And, don't pile the presents under the tree too close to the lights.

After the holidays, when taking the lights off, remember to wrap the cords up and put them in a safe place to avoid any broken bulbs for next year.

"If we all follow these simple safety precautions, we can all make this holiday season a happier and safer one for all."