



Press Release

TPREIA wishes you and your patrons a very Merry Christmas and wishes to pass along a word from the U.S. Consumer Protection Safety Commission.

Safety with seasonal decorations should not be taken lightly. Let's all have a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



December 19, 2008

To all NSN Members,

In the spirit of keeping families safe during this holiday season, CPSC would to share our most recent safety announcements:

- **Holiday Decoration Safety – During the 60 days surrounding the winter holiday season, about 11,000 people are treated in hospital emergency rooms due to decoration-related injuries with falls, cuts, shocks and burns topping the list. The National Fire Protection Association (a NSN member) estimates that each year an average of 240 fires involving dried-out Christmas trees result in 16 deaths and \$13**

million in property damage. For more decoration safety tips, please download our safety poster for you, your family and neighbors: www.cpsc.gov/nsn/holiday.pdf / www.cpsc.gov/nsn/holidaysp.pdf

- **Toy Safety** – There were tragically 18 toy-related deaths last year and about 170,100 hospital emergency-room treated toy-related injuries to children under 15. Most of the deaths were associated with airway obstruction from small toys, drowning, or motor vehicle accidents during play. As children open up and begin to play with new toys, please keep the safety tips in this poster top-of-mind: www.cpsc.gov/nsn/toysafety06.pdf / www.cpsc.gov/nsn/toysafety06sp.pdf

- **Pool Safety** – Although winter storms are sweeping across the country, there are still thousands of indoor and outdoor public pools and spas that are currently in operation. Starting on December 20, all public pool and spa operators will need to comply with a federal safety law aimed at preventing a hidden and tragic hazard: drain entrapment. Named after 7-year-old Virginia Graeme Baker who died in a spa after the powerful suction of a drain entrapped her under water, the Pool & Spa Safety Act requires that safer drain covers and other anti-entrapment systems (in some cases) be installed on all public pools and spas. If you have children or know of others who have children that swim year-round, please download this poster (www.cpsc.gov/businfo/poolspacomply.pdf) and ask the aquatics manager at the local YMCA, park and rec center, hotel or motel if the facility is in compliance with the law.

From all of us at the CPSC, have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

This message is from the
Texas Professional Real Estate Inspectors Association
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