Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, be fire smart!

**Half of all home heating fires** occur in the months of December, January, and February.

**Heating equipment** is involved in 1 in every 6 reported home fires and 1 in every 5 home fire deaths.

Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, or space heaters.

Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and as far away as possible from your house.

**Install and test** carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.

Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year.

Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home and any nearby buildings.

Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.

For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and www.nfpa.org/winter.
What to do if you hear the hiss of a gas leak, or catch a whiff of a rotten egg smell?

- If you notice something wrong like sparks or flames, evacuate your house immediately and call 911 once you are at a safe distance.
- If you don't notice anything obviously wrong, make sure all the burners on your gas stove are turned off.
- If the stove is off and you suspect a leak, don't turn on the lights. It could spark and cause an explosion.
- Open all the doors and windows to ventilate the house.
- If you notice your grass or shrubs suddenly changed color, looking more brown or rusty, that could be a sign of a leak: the gas pouring out of the pipes. If you see any of these things, make sure to call 911 immediately and then call the gas company.
- If you have turned the gas off in your home, do not try to turn it back on yourself; call the gas company to do that for you.

Tips on preventing fires, and creating a safer home environment can be found on AMERIND's website at [www.AMERINDRisk.org](http://www.AMERINDRisk.org), or by going to its Facebook page at [https://www.facebook.com/AMERINDRisk-157506987725744/](https://www.facebook.com/AMERINDRisk-157506987725744/). Or call AMERIND's Safety Department at 800-352-3496.

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About AMERIND Risk

AMERIND Risk was founded 30 years ago by more than 400 tribes who united and pooled their resources to create AMERIND Risk to keep money within Indian Country. AMERIND Risk provides employee benefits, and property, liability and workers compensation insurance for tribes, tribal governments, tribal businesses and individual property coverage. It is the only 100%, tribally-owned and operated insurance solutions provider in Indian Country. In May of 2016, AMERIND launched a new business line AMERIND Critical Infrastructure (ACI) which will help tribes obtain high-speed internet. To learn more about Tribes Protecting Tribes or for an insurance quote, go to [AMERINDRisk.org](http://www.AMERINDRisk.org).