



November 25, 2024

**PRESS RELEASE/ALL MEDIA  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
2024 Keep the Wreath Green Campaign**

Family gatherings, colorful decorations and festive meals are the hallmarks of the holiday season, but the tidings of the season also can pose a risk when it comes to fire safety. That is why area fire departments from La Crosse, Onalaska, Town of Campbell, Shelby, West Salem, Holmen, and La Crescent, Minnesota, are once again teaming up to “Keep the Wreath Green!”

Celebrating its 14<sup>th</sup> year, the campaign promotes fire safety by raising awareness of the fire dangers that exist during the holiday season. Running from November 29<sup>th</sup> through January 1<sup>st</sup>, each participating department will be placing a wreath in front of their fire stations that are decorated with all green light bulbs. If any one of the communities suffers a structure fire between November 29<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>, each department will remove a green bulb and replace it with a red one. In addition, the wreaths will also contain a single white bulb to honor firefighters who have died in the line of duty and a reminder of all the men and women in the armed services who are serving our country throughout the world.

Statistically, there are more fires during the winter than any other season. All of our area fire departments encourage residents to keep fire safety in mind when cooking, decorating, and heating their homes, especially during the winter. Please help us “Keep the Wreath Green” and have a safe, healthy and festive holiday season.

Here are a few important fire safety tips to help Keep the Wreath Green:

- Water your Christmas tree daily
- Check holiday lights for frayed ends
- Keep your tree at least 3 feet away from heat sources
- Never leave a lit candle unattended
- Keep close watch on your stove or oven when cooking
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors throughout your home regularly

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**Fire Department**

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