

***Deerfield Township -  
a great place to live, work,  
shop***

**Contact: Ms. Fran M. Klatte  
Public Relations Director  
513.701.6960**

### **Stay Warm but Safe on Cold Days**

Staying indoors during cold winter days could be hazardous to your health. Deerfield Township Fire Rescue warns that turning up the heat can increase the risk of home heating fires. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), nearly half of all home heating fires occur during the winter. The latest NFPA research shows that in 2005, heating equipment was involved in 62,200 reported U.S. home fires with 670 deaths, 1,550 injuries and \$909 million in property damage. NFPA and Deerfield Township Fire Rescue recommend some simple home heating safety tips:

- Space heaters need space. Keep all things that can burn, such as paper, bedding or furniture, at least 3 feet away from heating equipment.
- Turn portable heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.
- Plug power cords for portable heaters only into outlets with sufficient capacity and never into an extension cord.
- Inspect for cracked, frayed or broken plugs or loose connections. Replace before using.
- Have your chimney inspected each year and cleaned if necessary.
- Use a sturdy fireplace screen.
- Allow ashes to cool before disposing. Dispose of ashes in a metal container.
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. For the best protection interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home — when one sounds, they all sound. Test smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Install a carbon monoxide alarm in a central location outside each sleeping area.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- For fuel assistance, contact the National Fuel Funds Network at 1-202-824-0660.

For more information, contact Director of Public Relations Ms. Fran Klatte at 513.701.6960

###