



Alcohol &  
Gambling  
Enforcement

Bureau of  
Criminal  
Apprehension

Capitol Security

Crime Victim  
Services

Driver & Vehicle  
Services

Emergency  
Management /  
Emergency  
Response  
Commission

State Fire  
Marshal /  
Pipeline Safety

State Patrol

Traffic Safety



## State Fire Marshal Division

444 Cedar Street, Suite 145, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-5145  
Phone: 651/201-7200 FAX: 651/215-0525 TTY: 651/282/6555  
Internet: <http://www.fire.state.mn.us>

### Candles and Decorative Open-flame Device Information Sheet

Candles and decorative open-flame devices are permitted in places of assembly, drinking and dining establishments when, in the opinion of the code official, safeguards have been taken to prevent accidental fires and burn injuries.

#### Religious Ceremonies and Theatrical Performances:

Candles and other open-flame devices are allowed in religious ceremonies and theatrical performances when adequate safeguards have been taken, such as:

- Lighted candles should only be used by persons 15 years of age and older.
- A device should be provided to protect hands from melting wax.
- Lighted candles should not be tilted to light another candle.
- Lighted candles should be kept away from easily ignited materials. Particular attention should be paid to clothing that could be easily ignited.
- Persons should remain stationary with lighted candles.
- Other reasonable safeguards deemed necessary by the code official.

#### Decorative Open-flame Devices (other than religious & theatrical):

- Only use fuels with a flash point greater than 140 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Liquid or solid fueled devices containing more than 8 ounces must self-extinguish and not leak more than 1/4 tsp. per minute if tipped over.
- Devices or holders shall be designed so that they will return to an upright position when tilted to an angle of 45 degrees from vertical except units that self-extinguish and do not leak more than 1/4 tsp. per minute if tipped over.
- The flame shall be enclosed in a chimney that may have side openings no larger than 3/8". The distance to the opening at the top of the chimney shall be such that a piece of tissue placed at the top will not ignite in 10 seconds.
- Chimneys, and shades if used, shall be noncombustible and securely fastened to the device unless the device is self-extinguishing.
- Fuel canisters shall be safely sealed for storage.
- Candelabras with flame-lighted candles shall be securely fastened in place to prevent overturning and located away from people, drapes, curtains and other readily combustible materials in the area.

Requirements and safeguards for the use of candles and other open-flame devices in assembly, drinking and dining establishments are referenced in the 2007 Minnesota State Fire Code Section 308. More information is available from the Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division by sending an e-mail to [firecode@state.mn.us](mailto:firecode@state.mn.us) or check our web page at [www.fire.state.mn.us](http://www.fire.state.mn.us) for the latest information on fire in Minnesota.