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# Shelby Safety Net

PREPAREDNESS TIPS AND PRACTICES TO KEEP YOU, YOUR FAMILY,  
YOUR BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SAFE

## Stay Safe this Holiday Season

With the holiday season upon us, many people travel to loved ones, decorate their homes and places of work, and cook a family feast! As you prepare for any upcoming events, be sure you know what to do to stay safe. Then, share ways to prepare for the holidays with your family, friends, and community.

Traveling by car? Cooking a big meal? Decorating your home? Be sure to check out the safety tips in this edition of the Shelby Safety Net and have a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season with family and friends.

### Traveling by Car?



If you're heading somewhere cold, prepare your car for winter weather and pack an emergency supply kit that includes essentials like jumper cables, a car cell phone charger, a map, a warm blanket along with mittens, hats, socks, and boots. Include an ice scraper and snow brush, small LED flashlight and batteries, first aid kit, windshield cleaner, folding snow shovel and road flares. Keep it all in a clear plastic tub in the trunk.

Before you head out, check or have a mechanic check your vehicle for antifreeze levels, battery and ignition system, brakes, exhaust system, fuel and air filters, heater and defroster, lights and flashing hazard lights, oil, thermostat, windshield wiper equipment and washer fluid level. Your tires should be checked to make sure that they have enough tread and that they are properly inflated. Keep your gas tank filled above halfway to avoid a gas line freeze-up.

Be aware of the weather. Listen to forecasts, road reports, and storm warnings. Dress appropriately. Allow extra time for winter travel. Stay off the roads during and after inclement weather. Make sure you share your travel plans and route with someone before you leave.

Source: <https://www.ready.gov/car>

*Simple  
planning  
can save  
you  
trouble  
and even  
save  
your life.*

***Take It Slow with Ice and Snow!***



## Cooking a Big Meal?

Prevent home fires and keep an eye on what you fry! Many cooking fires start when frying food. Stay in your kitchen and be aware of what's going on. Fires start when the heat is too high. If you see smoke or grease that starts to boil, turn the burner off. If you leave the kitchen, turn off the stove. Turn pot handles towards the back of the stove so no one can bump them or pull them over.

Clean cooking equipment after each use. Crumbs in the toaster and grease in the oven can catch fire. If you have a fire in your oven, turn it off. Let the contents cool before cleaning. If you have a fire in your oven and flames escape it, leave your house and call 911.

Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of 3 feet around the stove. Position barbecue grills at least 10 feet away from siding and deck railings, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

Source: <https://www.ready.gov/home->

Find the Shelby Safety Net on-line at <http://co.shelby.oh.us/>



## Decorating Your Home?

Keep all candles 12 inches away from things that can burn. Three of every five [home candle fires](#) occurred when some form of combustible material was left or came too close to the candle. Consider using battery-operated flameless candles. These candles look and smell like real candles.

Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant. Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect. Turn off holiday lights at night or when you leave the house.

Source: [https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets/Winter\\_Holiday\\_Safety.ashx](https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets/Winter_Holiday_Safety.ashx)

Online shopping has become a popular way to purchase items without the hassles of traffic and crowds. When you shop online for holiday gifts, ensure your personal information is secure. How can you protect yourself? Do business with reputable vendors. Make sure your information is being encrypted. Look for a Uniform Resource Locator that begins with "https:" instead of "http:" and a padlock icon. If the padlock is closed, the information is encrypted. The location of the icon varies by browser; for example, it may be to the right of the address bar or at the bottom of the window. Some attackers try to trick users by adding a fake padlock icon, so make sure that the icon is in the appropriate location for your browser. Be wary of emails asking for information. Use a credit card rather than a debit card. Check your bank statements.

Source: <https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/tips/ST07-001>

Public Information: For more information about the Shelby County Safety Committee, please contact the Shelby County Commissioners Office, 129 E Court St, Sidney OH 45365, 937-498-7226.

The purpose of the Shelby County Safety Committee is to outline safety guideline requirements which will provide the basis for compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act (PERRP/OSHA) Part 1910 – Occupational Safety and Health Standards for the Code of Federal Regulations Title 29. To provide a mechanism to conduct self-audit evaluations to ensure the safety and health of site employees, and to provide a safe and healthful work environment.



**Register  
with the Shelby  
County mass  
notification system  
<http://co.shelby.oh.us>  
or by phone  
937-265-8400 to  
receive tornado and  
other severe weather  
warnings. Messages  
will come via phone,  
text, or both.**



***Holiday  
Entertaining?  
Test your smoke  
alarms and tell  
guests about  
your  
home fire  
escape plan.***

