

Autumn Fire Safety Tips from the Uxbridge Fire Department

Summer has past and Fall is here, bringing cooler weather and falling leaves.

- Never park your car or truck over a pile of leaves. The heat from the vehicle's catalytic converter or exhaust system can ignite the leaves below. The resulting fire could destroy your vehicle.
- Check all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to make sure they work, and change the batteries.
- Have heating appliances serviced and chimney flues examined for defects.
- Have fireplaces and fireplace dampers checked.
- Fireplaces should be equipped with an appropriate screen or glass enclosure to prevent sparks from flying out.
- Wood burning stoves should be examined and the flue and chimney checked for creosote buildup.
- Use only seasoned woods, and avoid soft woods like Pine, etc.
- Never use a flammable liquid to start a fireplace.
- Never overload the hearth with wood or artificial logs, the resulting fire may be too large for the unit.
- Put all ashes outdoors and away from the house in a metal container.