The holidays are a time to enjoy family and friends and reflect on those things that are important to us. There is nothing more important than providing a safe home for your family. Many do not realize the hazards associated with a tree that is not properly maintained.

This holiday season, the Office of Fire Prevention and Control is informing New Yorkers of the importance in keeping a natural tree properly hydrated. Trees not watered rapidly dry out which increases the risk of fire.

- **ALWAYS** keep the tree stand secure and filled with water.
- **DO NOT** place the tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent.
- **DO NOT** put your live tree up too early or leave it up for too long.

Remember to check and make sure your smoke detector is working and never remove the battery to use for another purpose.

**Follow these safety tips for a safe and joyous holiday season.**

be safe: **hydrate**