Lincoln County
Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Adam D. Shanks

225 W. Olive Street
Newport, Oregon 97365
(541) 265-4277

TIP OF THE WEEK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 26, 2026

Contact: Sheriff Adam Shanks
541-265-0652
lcsheriff@co.lincoln.or.us

HOME HEATING SAFETY

While the temperature outside is cooling down, you may be heating your home to keep yourself comfortable through the stormy months ahead. Before you turn the heat up, turn on the generator, or start a fire in the fireplace, it is important to take precautions and practice regular maintenance to prevent accidents.

Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

- Install smoke alarms on the ceiling of every room and in areas such as hallways.
- Install carbon monoxide detectors 5 feet or higher outside each bedroom or sleeping area and in attached garages.
- Every level of the home should have a smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector.
- Smoke alarms should be at least 10 feet away from the stove to reduce false alarms.
- Carbon monoxide detectors should be at least 15 feet away from gas-burning fireplaces, stoves, or other gas-burning appliances to reduce false alarms.
- Test alarms at least once a month or more frequently if indicated by the user manual.
- Replace the unit at least every 10 years or sooner if recommended by the manufacturer.
- Ensure alarms and detectors are loud enough to wake you. Plan and practice your evacuation routes and meeting points with your entire household, including pets.

Fireplace and Stove Safety

- Keep your fireplace clean and well-maintained. Regularly inspect and clean the chimney to remove any build-up or debris.

- Use a metal fireplace screen or glass doors to prevent sparks and embers from escaping.
- Keep flammable materials away from the fireplace.
- Never leave the fire unattended. Remember to extinguish the fire completely before leaving the room or going to bed.
- Keep children and pets away from the hot surfaces of your fireplace or stove to prevent burns or accidental fires.

Electric Heater and Space Heater Safety

- Keep flammable materials at least three feet away from heaters.
- Place heaters on a level, secure surface. Keep pets and children away from space heaters to prevent burns or tipping over the unit.
- Never leave your heater unattended. Always turn it off when you leave the room or go to sleep.
- Ensure your heater is in good condition. If there are frayed cords or other signs of wear, replace the unit.
- Do not use extension cords or power strips/surge protectors with your space heater. Plug heaters directly into an electrical outlet to help avoid electrical fires.

Generator Safety

- Generators should always be placed outdoors in a well-ventilated area. Keep them away from doors, windows, and vents to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Follow the manufacturer's guidelines. Never overload the generator with too many devices.
- Keep fuel stored safely and away from ignition sources. Never refuel the generator while it's running.

For more information and tips visit our website at www.lincolncountysheriff.net and like us on Facebook at Lincoln County Sheriff's Office – Oregon.

###