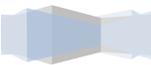




# Open Flame and Candle Safety Requirements and Recommendations

*The Everett Fire Department is committed to promoting public safety and ensuring that your event is successful and safe. The purpose of these guidelines is to familiarize event promoters and vendors with fire and life safety requirements enforced by the Everett Fire Department.*

- Always keep a burning candle within sight. Extinguish all candles when leaving a room or before going to sleep.
- Never burn a candle on or near combustible materials. Keep burning candles away from furniture, drapes, bedding, carpets, books, paper, flammable decorations, etc.
- Keep candles out of the reach of children and pets. Do not place lighted candles where they can be knocked over by children, pets or anyone else.
- Read and carefully follow all manufacturer instructions.
- Trim candlewicks to 1/4 inch each time before burning. Long or crooked wicks cause uneven burning and dripping.
- Always use a candleholder specifically designed for candle use. The holder should be heat resistant, sturdy and large enough to contain any drips or melted wax. Be sure the candleholder is placed on a stable, heat-resistant surface.
- Keep burning candles away from drafts, vents and air currents. This will help prevent rapid, uneven burning, smoking and excessive dripping. Drafts can also blow lightweight curtains or papers into the flame where they could ignite. Additionally, ceiling and freestanding fans can cause air currents and candles should not be placed nearby.
- Keep the wax pool free of wick trimmings, matches and debris at all times.
- Do not burn a candle for longer than the manufacturer recommends.
- Always burn candles in a well-ventilated room. Fragrances and chemicals emitted by candles can be toxic.
- Extinguish the flame if it comes too close to the holder or container. For a margin of safety, discontinue burning a candle when 2 inches of wax remains (1/2 inch if in a container). This will also help prevent possible heat damage to the counter/surface and prevent glass containers from cracking or breaking.
- Do not touch or move a candle when the wax is liquid.



- Extinguish pillar candles if the wax pool approaches the outer edge. Candles should be placed at least three inches apart from one another. This is to be sure they don't melt one another, or create their own air currents that will cause the candles to burn improperly. One of the safest ways to extinguish a candle is to use a candlesnuffer, which helps prevent hot wax from spattering.
- Do not extinguish candles with water. The water can cause the hot wax to spatter and can cause glass containers to break.
- Do not use candles during a power failure. Flashlights and other battery-powered lights are much safer light sources than candles.

### **Candleholders and Devices**

- (Based on section 308.3.1 of the 2012 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC))
- Class I and Class II liquids and LP-gas are not to be used in candles or open-flame devices.
- Devices or candleholders must be designed to prevent spillage of fuel or wax.
- Devices or candleholders must be designed to return to the upright position when tipped at less than 45 degrees from vertical. Alternatively, the device or candleholder is to self-extinguish when tipped over.
- Flames are to be enclosed except where openings on the side are more than 0.375 inch diameter or where openings are on the top and the distance to the top is such that a piece of tissue paper placed on the top will not ignite in 10 seconds.

