



Fire Safety Guidelines For Holiday Displays

Fire Code Compliance

FIRE SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR HOLIDAY DISPLAYS	
PERMITTED	NOT PERMITTED
Decorations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potted plants and leaf-bearing trees Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) approved artificial, slow-burning/non-combustible trees made of plastics All-natural cut trees and other plant material that have been treated with fire retardant material. Documentation of treatment is required Flame-resistant paper or cloth decorations covering 10% or less of the wall & ceiling space 	Decorations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All-natural cut trees or other plant material that have NOT been treated with a fire retardant material Metallic trees Combustible decorations
Lighting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UL Approved & UL tag must be on light cord(s) Miniature electric lights, up to 3 strings of light maximum 	Lighting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-UL approved light strands Light strands that do not have the UL approved tag More than 3 strings of lights plugged in together
Candles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battery operated LED candles "preferred" Live Candles with approval from the University Fire Marshal and Risk Management during religious observances only. Must be attended and enclosed in glass at all times while lit 	Candles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live open burning candles, except with an approved use of candle permit for religious observances
REMEMBER TO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep all exit routes hallways corridors and stairways free of obstructions Contact the University Fire Marshal at 607-255-8200 if you have any fire or life safety concerns Have a current and approved fire emergency plan Always know two ways out of every room and building. Practice alternate escape routes on a regular basis If fire strikes, on your way out of the building activate the fire alarm system to begin the total evacuation of building and then call Cornell Police at 607-255-1111 from a safe location 	
For additional fire safety information and other fire safety links visit us on the web at http://www.ehs.cornell.edu .	

Cornell is fortunate to have members from diverse religions on campus. According to the Cornell United Religious Works, there are more than 25 religious organizations represented at Cornell. While there are many religions that have no religious holiday between November and January, and while many members of Cornell's community do not practice a religion, the university encourages its members to respect differences in religious

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The most recent version of this document is available electronically at EH&S Website:

http://sp.ehs.cornell.edu/fps/fire-code-compliance/Documents/FCC_Fire_Safety_Guidelines_for_Holidays_Decorations.pdf

Fire Safety Guidelines for Holidays Decorations

practices during this holiday season, and always. In an effort to create an inclusive environment, the University Assembly approved the following *Guidelines for the Display of Religious Symbols* below

GUIDELINES FOR DISPLAY OF RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individuals may <i>privately</i> display symbols in their work areas or living quarters.• Areas that would give the impression that the symbol is associated with the university, particularly the external surfaces of buildings may not be used for displays of religious symbols.• The university administration shall not sponsor nor provide direct financial support for the display of religious symbols.• Campus groups desiring to sponsor celebrative and/or educational displays utilizing religious symbols shall have full access to appropriate campus display areas, subject to regular administrative procedures governing the use of these areas.• Any display areas that normally are available to all campus groups shall also be available for the display of religious symbols, subject to regular administrative procedures.• The policy prohibits special or temporary display areas for religious symbols.

University members are reminded to be respectful of the religious diversity of our students and colleagues and are encouraged to use an *inclusive* approach in celebrating the holiday season.

Individuals and units demonstrate this inclusive approach by:

- Focusing on the winter season rather than a particular holiday
- Displaying symbols that visually represent holidays of several religions in combination with secular decorations of the season.

GUIDELINES FOR INCLUSIVE SEASONAL DISPLAYS
<p>Winter Holiday Displays/Decorations that are Consistent with Cornell's Commitment to Diversity and the University Assembly Guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Snowflakes• Trees (in accordance with Fire Safety Guidelines) decorated with snowflakes and other non-religious symbols
<p>Winter Holiday Displays/Decorations that are Consistent with University Assembly Guidelines But Should be Basis of Dialogue Within Unit or Living Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trees decorated with bows, garland and lights (in accordance with Fire Safety Guidelines)• Wreaths with bows (in accordance with Fire Safety Guidelines)• Combination of snowflakes, (in accordance with Fire Safety Guidelines), Santa Claus figure, and dreidel• Holly
<p>Winter Holiday Displays/Decorations that are NOT Consistent with Either University Assembly Guidelines or the University's Commitment to Diversity and Inclusiveness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nativity scene• Menorah• Angels• Mistletoe• Stars at the top of trees• Crosses• Star of David

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