



## Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



### **Safe Holiday Season Safety Message**

***Traveling for the Holidays?*** Be Prepared If you're traveling this year, be sure your vehicle is in good running condition, get plenty of rest and be prepared for any emergency. Traveling by car during the holidays has the highest fatality rate of any major form of transportation based on fatalities per passenger mile. Hundreds of people die every year in crashes on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, according to Injury Facts. Alcohol impairment is involved in about a third of these fatalities.

### **Decorate Safely**

Decorating is one of the best ways to get in a holiday mood, but emergency rooms see thousands of injuries involving holiday decorating every season.

### **Watch Out for Fire-Starters**

Use of candles and fireplaces, combined with an increase in the amount of combustible, seasonal decorations in many homes during the holidays, means more risk for fire. The National Fire Protection Association reports that one-third of home decoration fires are started by candles and that two of every five decoration fires happen because the decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

### **Food Poisoning Is No Joke**

Keep your holidays happy by handling food safely. The [foodsafety.gov](http://foodsafety.gov) website from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provides some valuable holiday food safety tips.