



USAG Bavaria Safety Gram 17-002

Holiday Party Tips



The holidays are a time to celebrate. And hosting a party can be as fun as the event itself. Every responsible host knows that it's only a great time if every guest gets home safely.

Here are some tips to help you throw an entertaining and safe party:



As guests RSVP, confirm that they have a plan for a safe way home via a non-drinking designated driver, such as a friend, rideshare service i.e. Uber or taxi.



Plan activities like party games or door prizes that do not involve alcohol.



Do not push alcoholic drinks! Drinking at a party is not required to have a good time.



Provide plenty of food to keep your guests from drinking on an empty stomach. Avoid too many salty snacks, which tend to make people thirsty and drink more.



Make “mocktails” and other non-alcoholic beverages fun for non-drinking designated drivers and others who prefer to not drink alcohol.



Remember only time sobers a person up, which means you may need to offer your sofa or guest room to guests who need to stay put.



As the party host, have fun – but not too much fun. Stay within your limits to make sure your guests stay within theirs.

References:

MADD; www.MADD.org/



USAG Bavaria Safety Gram

Fireworks Safety Information

Fireworks on Army Installations

AE Reg 600-1 states;

"Personnel will not use or ignite fireworks or flares on places under the control of the US Army".

Fireworks Off Post

During the New Year's Holiday, fireworks in Germany are only sold between 29-31 December and can only be used on 31 December and 1 January.

A person must be 18 years old to purchase and use fireworks.

German Law forbids homemade fireworks or ones from Polen (Poland) and Tschechien (Czech Republic).

They often have a higher explosive power.

Only use fireworks outdoors
Know and obey all local laws

German law allows sparklers to be used by young children. Parents, pay special attention to your children using these because a sparkler can reach temperatures up to 1800 degrees Fahrenheit!

Know how to use the fireworks by always reading the instructions!

In case of an emergency off Post call the German Fire Department at

112

References:

AE Regulation 600-1, para 26d



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Winter Ice Safety Message



Ice fishing or skating on any lake, pond or stream in the USAG Bavaria footprint is not authorized. It is very dangerous to assume that the ice is thick enough to support ones weight. Be especially cautious when near these areas either on or off post with children.



OFF-POST

- Use only host nation approved facilities
- If you see the following signs, **STAY OFF THE ICE!**

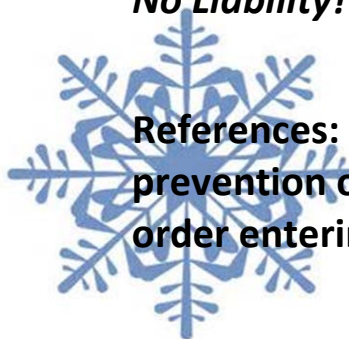


***Enter the ice on your own risk,
No Liability!***



The ice is closed for safety reasons!

References: In accordance with German Law, LStVG, Art. 27: “for prevention of risks to life and health, communities can prohibit by order entering and driving on ice”





USAG Bavaria Safety Gram

Winter Visibility



You can't see through snow, so make this "preflight check" before getting behind the wheel:

- If parked outside leave a little early to provide the extra time to clean off your vehicle and ensure visibility is good.
- Clear off the entire car, not just a little peephole in the windshield, driving in these conditions require more visibility. Be extra vigilant because others on the road may not be as prepared as you.



- Make sure every glass surface is clear and transparent by using a snow brush and/or ice scraper, this includes side view mirrors and ALL exterior lights (don't forget license plate lights).

DID YOU KNOW: If ice or clumps of partially thawed snow comes off of your vehicle and causes an accident you will be cited and fined under German law. Also by German law while cleaning your vehicle you are not allowed to let the vehicle idle.

References: In accordance with German Law, StVO, Para. 23.Art. 1:

“ Every person participating in public road traffic must so conduct himself, that no other person is endangered or injured, or is impeded or inconvenienced more than is unavoidable under the circumstances”.



USAG Bavaria Safety Gram

Ladder Safety



In the United States, more than 500,000 people per year are treated and about 300 people die from ladder-related injuries. The estimated annual cost of ladder injuries in the U.S. is \$11 billion, including work loss, medical, legal, liability, and pain and suffering expenses.

While hanging Christmas Lights and other holiday décor ladder fall injuries are a constant in the workplace and at home. There are five major causes for these incidents:

1. Incorrect extension ladder setup angle: In approximately 40% of cases, the leading cause of ladder-related injuries is a ladder sliding out at the base due to an incorrect setup angle. Ladder users tend to set extension ladders at shallower angles than the optimal desired angle (75 degrees).

2. Inappropriate ladder selection: Selection of a ladder with the proper duty-rating is also important to avoid structural failure. Always read and understand the ladder labeling and never exceed the load capacity (your weight + tool or items weight that are carried up a ladder). Also think about the task you'll use the ladder for, Example: If it's electrical don't use a metallic ladder, use a fiberglass or wooden ladder to avoid electrical injuries.

3. Insufficient ladder inspection: You can reduce the likelihood of ladder structural failure by practicing regular inspection and maintenance.

4. Improper ladder use: Activities such as overreaching, carrying objects, applying excessive force, slips, and missteps are also frequent causes of ladder-related fall injuries.

5. Lack of access to ladder safety tools and information: Small companies that account for up to 80% of all construction companies, and individual ladder users, such as homeowners, do not typically receive the required training for safe use of portable ladders. Bottom line, do the research and use the appropriate ladder for the task at hand.

NIOSH has a handy Ladder Safety app that can be downloaded for free, it is a great resource that can be used at home.



References: Centers for Disease Control / NIOSH Ladder Safety

http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/falls/mobileapp.html/?s_cid=3ni7d2laddersafetyapp02172016



USAG Bavaria Safety Gram

Don't Let Your Turkey Fry

Fry Your Turkey Day



Lured in by the promise of moist, sweet turkey meat, the deep fryer has become an increasingly popular way to make Thanksgiving dinner. But cooking up a Tom the Turkey in a vat of boiling oil does come with its dangers.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, every year deep-fryer fires are responsible for 60 injuries, the destruction of 900 homes, and more than \$15-million in property damage, so please take head of the following tips.

Remember the 4 D's in Turkey Frying:

Don't Deep Fry a Frozen Turkey: Frozen turkeys are full of moisture, and we all know how water and hot oil don't mix well, so make sure your turkey is completely thawed out before trying to fry it. Depending on the size of the turkey it could take up to 3 or 4 days in your refrigerator from solid frozen to ready to go in fryer.

Don't Let Oil Get Too Hot: When oil gets around 400-425-degrees it can catch on fire by itself. Make sure you have a thermometer and are watching the temperature very carefully. If you see your oil smoking, it's too hot, you need to back off, back off the heat. Most oils should stay around 350-degrees, but you can check the label to see what the exact temperature limit is for your oil.

Don't Use Too Much Oil: A common, and potentially disastrous mistake people make is putting too much cooking oil in their pot. If you overfill your pot with oil and you drop the turkey in, it's going to spill over, and that can be almost as catastrophic as having a frozen turkey go in because you're going to get spillage, the oil is going to run down next to the flame on the burner, which could result in a catastrophic fire. To figure out how much oil you'll need, put your turkey in the empty cooking pot, fill it up with enough water to cover it, take the turkey out, and then mark the top of the water line to know how much oil your turkey will need.

Don't Deep-Fry Indoors: If something does go wrong, the inside of your home is the last place you want flames shooting up in the air. Don't do this in your garage, don't do this on a wooden or concrete deck. Best place to put the fryer is in your yard away from anything that's flammable or that could catch on fire. And by all means do not attempt to deep-fry a turkey with this type of cooker inside your house.





USAG Bavaria Safety Gram

Holiday Décor – Lights. Candles. Action.



While holiday lighting and electrical decorations contribute to the splendor of the season, they can also increase the risk of fires and electrical injuries if not used safely. Given these safety hazards, it is crucial that safety is a foremost concern when decorating. Follow the guidelines listed below to keep your holidays bright:

- Purchase electrical decorations from reputable retailers and are approved by a nationally recognized testing lab such as UL (Underwriters Laboratory), ETL (Intertek) or CSA (Canadian Standards Association).
- Make sure all extension cords and electrical decorations are marked for proper use. Never use decorations or extension cords labelled as “Indoor Use Only” outside in the element or vice versa.
- Inspect all lights, decorations, and extension cords for damage before using. Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Never connect more than three strings of incandescent lights together.
- Avoid overloading electrical outlets with too many decorations or electrical devices. They can overheat and cause a fire.
- Outdoor electric lights and decorations should be plugged into circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs).
- Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep all decorations at least 3 feet away from any type of heating equipment such as radiators, heat vents, or lights or an open flame like a candle or fireplace.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree. Do not burn candles near trees, curtains, or any other flammable items. Make sure candles are on stable surfaces.
- Turn off all indoor and outdoor electrical decorations before leaving home or going to sleep. Never leave burning candles unattended or sleep in a room with a lit candle.

