



Army Safety Gram

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Spring Cleaning Safety Tips

Each year many of us look forward to that special time of year known as Spring Break. For many, it is that time of year when we emerge from our wintering shelters and engage in the annual ritual of spring cleaning. Follow these simple tips to keep this annual ritual safe for everyone.

Fire Safety Tips

Spring is a great time to clean your house throw away unwanted items. It's also a great time to check all your for potential fire hazards.

- ◆ Check your house for any stored papers or any other combustible materials you don't need
- ◆ Keep the area under your stairs clear of combustible as well.
- ◆ Check your yard for any woodpiles, branches, or papers that could prove tempting to someone wanting to light a fire
- ◆ Make sure you clean your BBQ and check for leaks, breaks, and other wear & tear
- ◆ Check your smoke alarm monthly

General Cleaning Tips

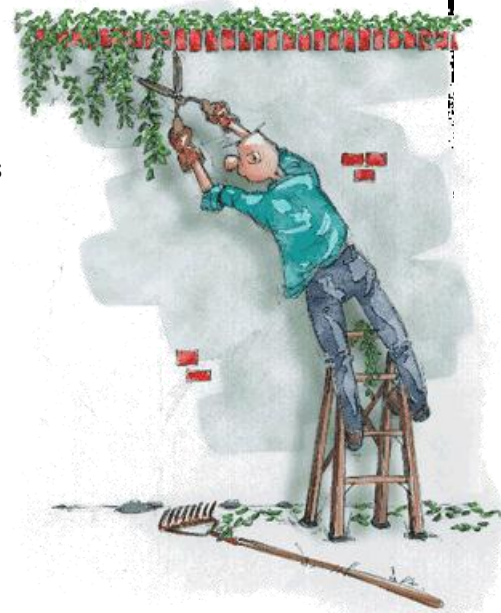
While spring cleaning is a rewarding activity, it can also be a risky one. Falls, cuts, and electrical shock are just some of the injuries which can occur.

- ◆ Wear protective clothing. Sturdy shoes will protect your feet if you drop something or step on something sharp. Wear gloves to protect your hands from minor injuries and don't forget hearing and eye protection.
- ◆ Beware of electrical hazards. Keep moisture away from electrical appliances and outlets. Don't spray cleaning products directly onto light switches or the fuse panel area of an electrical stove.
- ◆ Slips, trips, and falls are common household accidents, and they can occur easily when the house is in disarray during spring cleaning. Keep traffic areas clear of buckets, cords, boxes and other obstacles. Clean up spills promptly, and move carefully on damp surfaces.
- ◆ Ladders are involved in many serious injuries at home. Make sure the ladder is in good condition. Place the base of the ladder on a solid, even surface. Do not stand on the top few rungs of a ladder. Do not lean away from the ladder because this can cause it to tip over. Always watch out for overhead electrical hazards.

Household Chemicals

Many household chemicals and paints can present hazards to you and your family, particularly children. Ensure you precautions are taken to keep all safe and sound.

- ◆ Get rid of old household chemicals and paints. Know your communities disposal rules and dispose of them properly
 - ◆ Close lids to chemicals and paints when not in use. Ensure they always put safely away when the work is finished
 - ◆ Never leave children unsupervised when paints and chemicals are in use.
 - ◆ Read the instructions carefully and make sure you adhere to them. Pay particular attention to flammability cautions and ventilation requirements.



While you are enjoying the beautiful weather and dusting off the cobwebs of winter, remember to take your on the job safety awareness with you.

