



## North Coast Schools' Insurance Group

901 Myrtle Avenue • Eureka, California 95501-1294 • 707/445-7126 • FAX 707/445-7084  
SERVING DEL NORTE COUNTY AND HUMBOLDT COUNTY SCHOOLS

### Gearing Up for Colder Weather

When the weather turns cold, it can bring a chill into our homes and workplaces. Portable space heaters have become a popular way to supplement central heating or to heat one room. If you plan to use portable electric space heaters, make sure to follow these tips and recommendations:

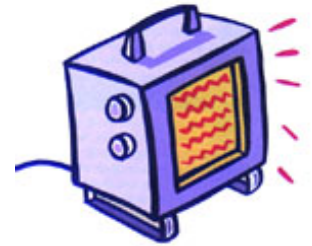
#### Types of Electric Space Heaters

Oil or water-filled radiator—*Heated oil or water travels through the heater.*

Ceramic heater—*Air is warmed over a ceramic heating element.*

Fan-forced heater—*A fan blows warm air over metal coils.*

Infrared heaters—*Heat is created by infrared bulbs.*



#### Heater Checklist

- ⇒ Before operating a heater, always read & follow the manufacturer's operating instructions.
- ⇒ Only purchase newer model heaters with current safety features. Make sure the heater carries the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) label.
- ⇒ Make sure the heater has an auto shutoff & is at least 3 feet away from anything that can burn.
- ⇒ Choose a heater with a thermostat and overheat protection.
- ⇒ Place the heater on a solid, flat surface.
- ⇒ Keep space heaters out of the way of foot traffic and never block an exit.
- ⇒ Keep children away from the space heater.
- ⇒ Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet. Never use an extension cord!
- ⇒ Space heaters should be turned off and unplugged when you leave the room or go to bed.
- ⇒ Do not use space heaters in enclosed spaces or where flammable objects may be present.



#### Did You Know...

The US Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that more than 25,000 residential fires every year are associated with the use of space heaters, resulting in more than 300 deaths