



Washington State Patrol

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

Serving Washington Since 1901

*****For Immediate Release*****

Captain Deion Glover
Government and Media Relations

State Fire Marshal's Office
State Fire Marshal Chad Cross

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Cigarette Caused Fires are Preventable

Olympia – Improperly disposed cigarettes are an avoidable cause of fire-related incidents.

In 2021, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reported that improperly disposed cigarettes caused 7,800 fires, 275 deaths and 750 injuries nationwide. Washington State reported 125 fires caused by cigarettes in 2022, which resulted in 2 deaths and \$4,108,139 in property loss.

The State Fire Marshal's Office offers the following safety tips to prevent cigarette caused fires.

- Select fire-safe cigarette.
- Smoke outside.
- Fully extinguish cigarettes in a deep, sturdy ashtray.
- Do not throw cigarettes in bushes, mulch, leaves, potted plants, groundcover, or items that can catch fire easily.
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children.
- Avoid smoking cigarettes near flammable materials.

For more information, contact the State Fire Marshal's Office at (360) 596-3904.

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The State Fire Marshal's Office is a Bureau of the Washington State Patrol, providing fire and life safety services to the citizens of Washington State. These services include public education, licensing and certification of the fire sprinkler, fireworks, and cigarette industries, data collection and analysis, fire and life safety inspections for state facilities, plan review of school construction projects, all-risk mobilization of statewide fire service resources, hazardous materials training, and the training and certification of firefighters.

www.wsp.wa.gov/state-fire-marshals-office/