



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™  
MS AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY  
EXPERIMENT STATION

# MAFES DAWG TRACKS

Here we are middle of November and hoping it's about to become cold enough to finally put the shorts up and get out the hoodies. But that also means time to get out those electric space heaters.

While space heaters are helpful in supplementing your primary heat source. It is important to be aware of their biggest **HAZARDS**



Catching combustible materials on fire (clothing, curtains, furniture, carpet, paper, bedding) if setting too close to each other.



Overloading electrical cords or outlet if not sufficient or damaged.

To **AVOID** these hazards the most important things you can do are ...

- ✓ Place heaters at least 3 feet away from combustible & flammable materials.
- ✓ Plug heaters directly into a wall outlet (not on extension cords or power strips).
- ✓ Never leave a space heater plugged in that is unattended.

These and other requirements are also reflected in MSU's policy on electric, portable space heaters

<https://www.policies.msstate.edu/sites/www.policies.msstate.edu/files/95502.pdf>

For more info contact:

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feeling chilled?

## HEAT YOUR SPACE SAFELY

- 1 Keep flammable items at least 3 feet away
- 2 Place on a flat, level surface
- 3 Make sure the cord is not frayed or cracked
- 4 Plug it directly into an outlet
- 5 Follow all instructions and use models endorsed by a reputable testing lab
- 6 Do not use an extension cord or power strip, which can overheat
- 7 Do not use around small children or pets
- 8 Do not use one with a damaged plug or prongs

Safe Electricity.org®

### Sources:

Thanks to Rebecca Leigh for the reminder of this and idea/info for the topic.