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 **Top 5 Thanksgiving Safety Hazards**

Thanksgiving Holiday can prove to be a very dangerous holiday. On a gratitude-focused day, too many people find themselves dealing with the neglect of safety. Before any of that happens, take a few minutes to understand the Top 5 Thanksgiving Safety Hazards and how best to avoid them ruining your holiday.

**Top 5 Thanksgiving Safety Hazards**

1. **Fire** – More than 4,000 home fires take place Thanksgiving Day in the United States and most of those start in the kitchen. To help prevent fire in your home on Thanksgiving, never leave food cooking unsupervised and keep children away from the stove.
2. **Food** – Choking and food poisoning are two of the biggest hazards regarding food, and their potential only increases at Thanksgiving when most people consume more food than usual. Prevent these scary and uncomfortable events by taking time to enjoy food instead of eating quickly, following safe handling and cooking guidelines for meat, and knowing what to do should a food-related emergency occur.
3. **Travel** – About 91% of Thanksgiving travel takes place by car, and over 20 million people travel by airplane. Since Thanksgiving is one of the most travel-heavy times of the year, it is also one of the most likely for accidents and other challenges experienced when travelling. When traveling by car, make sure your vehicle is well-maintained and plan your route ahead of time. For air travel, allow extra time to get to your gate.
4. **Pets** – If you add pets to an already busy house during a Thanksgiving get-together, you may just create a recipe for disaster. To avoid this, make sure everyone knows not to feed scraps to your pets, keep your pets out of the kitchen, and perhaps put pets in a closed bedroom if they seem overwhelmed.
5. **Black Friday** – Safety on Black Friday involves keeping yourself and your purchases safe by using the buddy system, by not overloading yourself when walking to the car and by being mindful of who sees your credit card. In addition, make sure purchases are always out of sight in your vehicle and that children are always within your sight in the store.

**Have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving Holiday!**