

MEMBER ALERT



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UNITED STATES COAST GUARD (USCG) SAFETY ALERT ON SMALL PASSENGER VESSEL FIRES

Your Managers draw attention to the USCG [Marine Safety Alert 07-23](#) *Critical Insight From Ongoing Investigations Into Small Passenger Vessel Fires*. The Alert was issued in response to multiple ongoing investigations being conducted by the USCG and the National Transportation Safety Board into fires onboard small passenger vessels.

The Alert references best practices that may assist in the prevention of fires onboard vessels.

- ✓ Battery powered table lights on dinner cruises offer an alternative to open flame, liquid paraffin-fueled decorative votive candles or wax birthday candles.
- ✓ Completely extinguish and cool Sterno® heating cans before storing. As an alternative, consider fire-free (flameless) methods to heat food.
- ✓ Improve fire protection for vessels by replacing receptacles made of combustible materials or polyethylene with non-combustible metal trash cans.
- ✓ Hazard tape or other floor marking tapes are recommended to clearly delineate the location of escape hatches.
- ✓ Avoid stowing combustible materials near ignition or heat sources.

Your Managers recommend that Members take note of this information and be guided accordingly.