Light and Ladder Safety

- Never hang lights on a metal tree (this can cause electrocution and fire).
- Stay clear of power and feeder lines when hanging lights outdoors.
- Only use lights (and power strips/grounded extension cords) designed for outdoor use.
- Lights should be tested by reputable testing lab such as UL or ETL (this information can be found on the label).
- Before decorating, check lights for damage (frayed wires, cracked sockets or loose connections) and discard/repair any damaged sets.
- Try to use the cooler-burning "mini" Christmas lights as opposed to the traditional larger bulbs. The older, larger style burns much hotter.

Ladder Safety Tips

- Always have someone else working with you when hanging Christmas lights or decorations from a ladder or roof.
- Make sure the ladder is on a secure and level footing before climbing.
  - Space the base of the ladder one foot away from the wall for every four feet it reaches up.
  - Stay centered between the rails of the ladder. Do not overreach to hang lights or decorations—move the ladder.
  - Do not stand on the ladder's top two rungs.
  - To reach a roof, extend the ladder at least three feet beyond the edge of the roof.

IDHS: Leadership for a Safe and Secure Indiana