



# Homecoming SAFETY

Homecoming events and other fall festivities can increase your district's vulnerability to dangerous and costly accidents. Following these guidelines can help ensure your district is taking precautions to guard against potential dangers.

## BONFIRE

- Hold at a minimum of 25 feet from any building or vehicle
- Stay away from low-hanging branches, tall grass or brush
- Ensure pit is at least 12-18 inches deep and diameter is 2 feet wider than fire
- Place stones in the bottom and around the pit
- Have two 5-gallon buckets of water, fire extinguisher and a shovel near fire
- Ensure fires are supervised by an adult

## CAR SMASH

- Obtain an agreement-to-participate form from the organizing party
- Rope off 30-foot designated safety area around the car
- Use supervisors around perimeter to enforce clearance rules
- Strip down car to minimize debris
- One smasher at a time inside the safety area
- Smasher must wear protective equipment (including safety glasses, hard hats and gloves)
- Enforce height requirements for mallet use
- Provide staff members trained in first-aid with proper medical supplies

## BLEACHERS

- Inspect bleachers every year and check bolts, nuts, pins and fasteners
- Make sure structures are free of cracks and signs of warping, bending, breaking or rusting
- Use contrasting colors to identify leading edges of aisle steps
- Test functionality of retractable bleachers
- Ensure guardrails are on the backs and open ends of bleachers

## PARADES

- Apply flame retardant spray or solutions to decorative float materials such as paper or hay
- Make sure the towing vehicle has functioning horn and brakes, an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit
- Maintain 30 feet between float and participants
- Never jump on or off a moving float
- Do not throw candy or other items to spectators
- Have a safety plan in place in case an accident occurs

*This document provides information of a general nature. It is not intended to be fully comprehensive, nor to provide legal advice or opinions relative to specific facts, matters, situations or issues. A member school district is encouraged to seek legal advice for their specific purposes.*