



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

29 April 2020

Contact: Marsha McCurdy Adell  
Fire Inspector  
West Hartford Fire Marshal's Office  
860.561.8316  
[MAzell@WestHartfordCT.gov](mailto:MAzell@WestHartfordCT.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

A top priority of the West Hartford Fire Marshal's Office is educating the community on practices that keep us safe. We understand that many people have been diligent in making sure that hands, countertops, doorknobs, and workspaces are clean in an effort to stay healthy during the coronavirus pandemic. With specific surfaces requiring different disinfectants, it's easy to make the mistake of accidentally mixing household chemicals that could produce a dangerous result. These are safety precautions to keep in mind and combinations to avoid so you reduce the risk of exposure to deadly fumes and corrosive compounds.

- Follow the instructions on the label when you use and store household chemicals.
- Wear gloves or goggles when you use these materials.
- Don't mix products. This can cause deadly gases or cause a fire. Bleach, in particular, should never be mixed with ammonia, vinegar, nor rubbing alcohol.
- Store products in their original labeled containers.
- Store anything that can catch on fire away from your home.
- Never store materials that can cause a fire in the sun or near an open flame or heat source.
- Store these materials out of the reach of children and pets.
- Use safety locks and guardrails on shelves and cabinets when you store materials. This will prevent them from falling or tipping.

If anyone in the area being cleaned becomes ill with symptoms of difficulty breathing, excessive coughing, chest pain or loss of consciousness, please dial 9-1-1 immediately. You can also contact the Connecticut Poison Control Center at 800-222-1222 which is available 24 hours a day and is free and confidential with access to interpreters when necessary.

We want you to be careful while trying to be safe. If you have any questions regarding preventing fires in your home or business, you can reach the West Hartford Fire Marshal's Office directly at 860. 561.8320. Thank you for joining us in our mission of fire prevention which keeps our community safe.

WEST HARTFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT  
50 SOUTH MAIN STREET, ROOM 204  
WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06107-2538  
(860)561-8320 FAX: (860)561-7551

