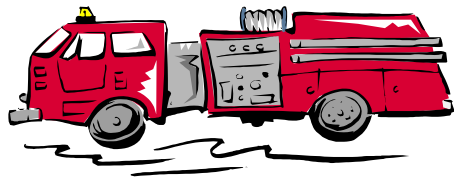


- To call for police, fire or emergency services, **DIAL 9-1-1**

#### WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE

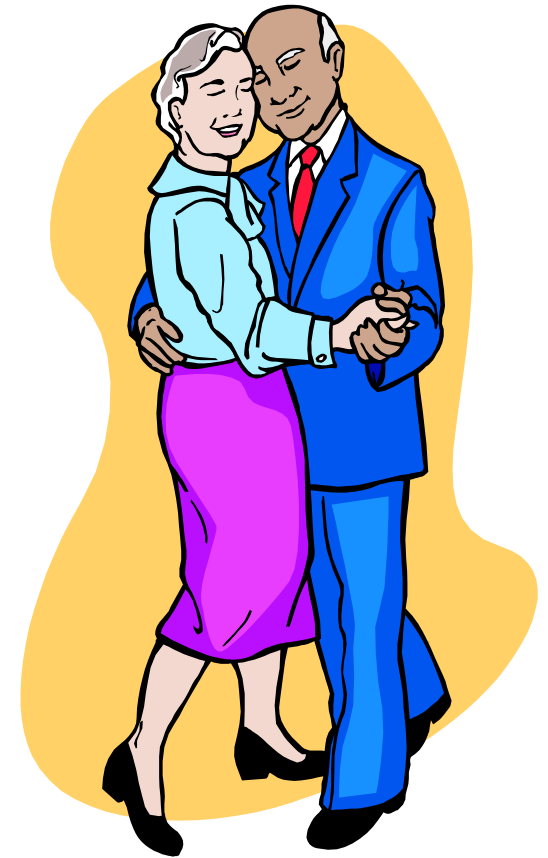
- When a smoke detector sounds, roll out of bed and stay low to the floor.
- Feel the door, if it is hot do not open it. Stay in the room and notify the fire department. Stay on the phone and tell the dispatcher that you are trapped. Use blankets or duct tape around the door to keep smoke from coming in. Stay by the window and wait for the fire department to arrive.
- If the door is cool, open it slowly and proceed to the nearest exit.
- If you encounter smoke, stay low and crawl out of the house.
- Call the fire department from a neighbors house.
- Many fire injuries and deaths are caused by people attempting to extinguish a fire, if you need additional time to escape a fire because of physical disabilities, ***get out immediately and call the fire department.***  
***Never go back into a burning home.***

The Cherry Hill Fire Department provides all of its senior citizens free smoke detectors and batteries. We also provide free home inspections and assist you in planning your home fire evacuation. For more detail, please contact the Community Education Division at 795-9805



**Cherry Hill Fire Department**  
Community Education Division  
301 Burnt Mill Road  
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003  
Tel: (856) 795-9805  
Fax: (856) 795-4588

# FIRE SAFETY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

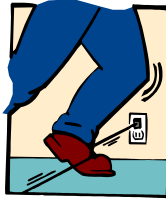


**CHERRY HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**COMMUNITY EDUCATION DIVISION**  
301 BURNT MILL ROAD  
CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY 08003

THE CHERRY HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT WANTS TO INCREASE YOUR AWARENESS ABOUT THE SPECIAL FIRE AND BURN RISKS COMMON TO YOUR AGE GROUP. IT IS OUR INTENTION TO PRESENT TO YOU SEVERAL OPTIONS WHICH WILL HOPEFULLY ELIMINATE THE RISK OF INJURY FROM FIRE.

### Common Electrical Hazards in the Home

- Unsafe electrical outlets
- Extension cords under the rug
- Frayed or worn electrical cords



### HELPFUL HINTS

- Do not overload outlets. Limit the number of electrical appliances used in each outlet
- Have a professional licensed electrician rewire your home and add more circuits
- Inspect cords on old lamps and appliances. If the cords are frayed and cracked, have them rewired or replace the appliance immediately



### Careless Use of Smoking



#### Materials

- The leading cause of fire fatalities
- Disposing of cigarettes improperly
- Smoking while under the influence of alcohol or medication

### HELPFUL HINTS

- **NEVER SMOKE IN BED**
- Don't smoke when you are tired, drowsy, drinking or taking medication which makes you sleepy

- Dispose of smoking materials properly. Be sure that proper ash trays are used. Ash trays should be large, noncombustible and stable so that cigarettes cannot fall out if they are unattended
- Install smoke detectors in rooms frequently used by smokers

### Additional Heating Appliances

- Improper fuel for Kerosene heater
- Heating appliance too close to combustibles
- Refueling kerosene heater while it is still hot
- Storing kerosene fuel inside the home
- No screen in front of the fireplace



### HELPFUL HINTS

- Be sure to use clear kerosene as fuel **NEVER USE GASOLINE FOR YOUR KEROSENE HEATER**
- Keep portable heating appliances at least (3) feet away from drapes, furniture, clothing, blankets, etc
- Store kerosene outside your home
- Never refuel your kerosene heater inside your home or while it is hot
- Be sure that you provide adequate ventilation for the heating device



### Burn Hazards

- Reaching for things above the stove and clothes catching fire
- Reaching over burners that are in use
- Leaning against stove

### HELPFUL HINTS

- Don't wear loose or frilly clothes while cooking
- Rearrange cupboards for safety
- Keep pot handles turned inward
- If your clothes catch fire, learn to **STOP, DROP AND ROLL**
- Cool burns with cool water
- Get medical attention immediately
- Avoid reaching above the stove while cooking. Retrieve the items that are needed prior to cooking



### FIRE FACTS

Most fatal fires take place between midnight and 8 AM, while most people are asleep. 79% of all multiple death fires occur between midnight and 8 AM. Over 4,000 people die each year in fires. 78% occur in the home. Most of these deaths are caused by smoke-not flames.



### FIRE PREVENTION MEASURES

- Be sure to install smoke detectors throughout the home, provide at least one smoke detector per level.
- Change your smoke detector batteries twice a year.
- Test your smoke detectors weekly.
- Inspect your home for fire hazards.
- Develop a fire exit plan and practice it.

