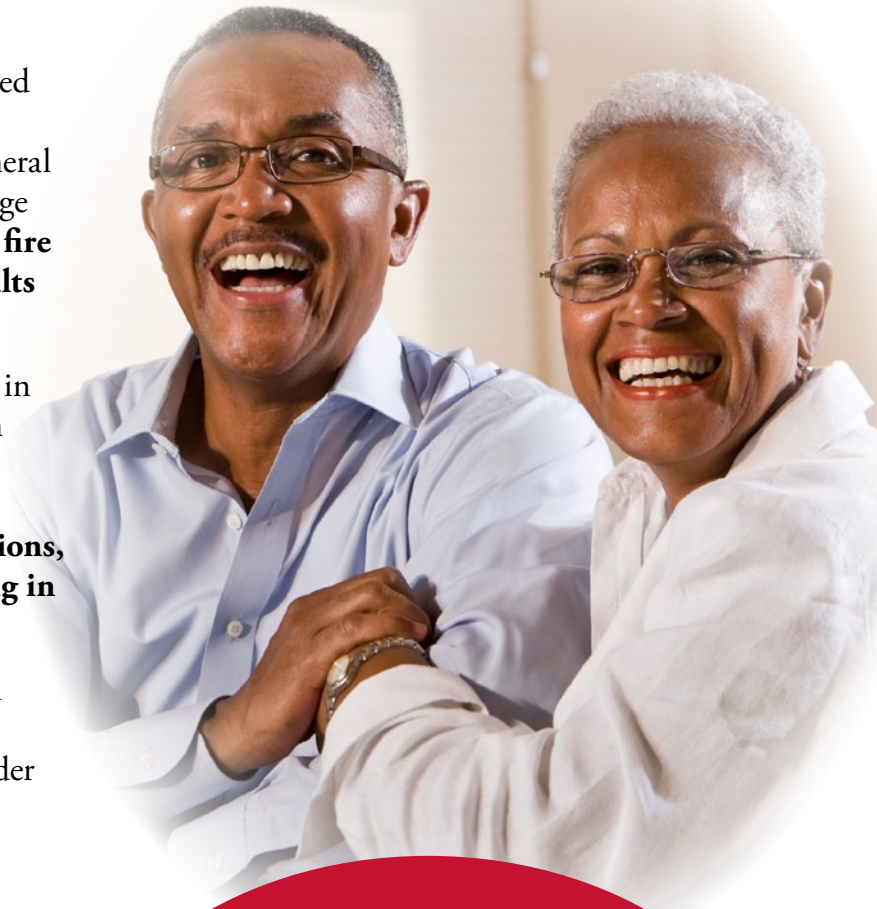


# Fire Safety for Older Adults

- The relative risk of individuals aged 65 and over dying in a fire is 2.6 times greater than that of the general population. The risk worsens as age increases. **The risk of dying in a fire soars to 4.4 times for those adults over the age of 84.**
- Older adults are more vulnerable in a fire than the general population due to a combination of **factors including mental and physical frailties, greater use of medications, and elevated likelihood of living in a poverty situation.**
- The leading cause of *fire deaths* in older adults is **smoking** and the leading cause of *fire injuries* in older adults is **cooking**.



Following are  
a few simple tips to keep  
you and those you love fire safe:

- Don't leave smoking materials unattended and never smoke in bed.
- Never leave cooking unattended. Use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.



**FEMA**

*U.S. Fire Administration*

For information and resources on this subject,  
visit **[www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/focus](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/focus)**