



United States Fire
Administration

WITH FACTS

FIIGHT FIRE

For more information on how you can help prevent fire deaths please contact your local fire department on a nonemergency number or the United States Fire Administration at (800) 238-3358 or www.usfa.fema.gov

Recently your community was struck by fire. Someone died. As you continue to report about the devastating effects of this fire, the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) encourages you to remind your audience that many fire deaths and injuries are preventable.

More than 4,000 Americans die each year in fires and more than 25,000 are injured. Many of them might be alive today if they had only had the information they needed to avoid a disaster.

The following life-saving tips could make a big difference to your audience. By incorporating them in your story now, while the moment is still fresh, you could help save a life.

Did you know?

- *Eighty percent of all fire deaths occur in the home.*
- *Senior citizens and children under the age of five have the greatest risk of fire death.*
- *Deaths due to not being able to escape a fire are particularly avoidable.*
- *Having a working smoke alarm more than doubles one's chances of surviving a fire.*

Following these simple fire safety tips can boost survival rates dramatically. Please share them with your readers because knowledge is the best fire protection.

ESCAPE PLANNING

LIFE-SAVING TIPS

- 1 Make sure everyone in your family knows two routes to escape from bedrooms.
- 2 Buy a collapsible ladder for escape from upper story windows.
- 3 Keep the fire department's number by the phone.
- 4 Have a flashlight by your bed, to help you see and a whistle to alert your family.
- 5 Practice feeling your way out of the house with your eyes closed.
- 6 Never open doors that are hot to the touch.
- 7 Teach your family to stop, drop to the ground and roll if their clothes catch fire.
- 8 Designate a meeting place outside and take attendance.
- 9 Remember to escape first, then notify the fire department.
- 10 Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home. Test the batteries every month and change them at least once a year.