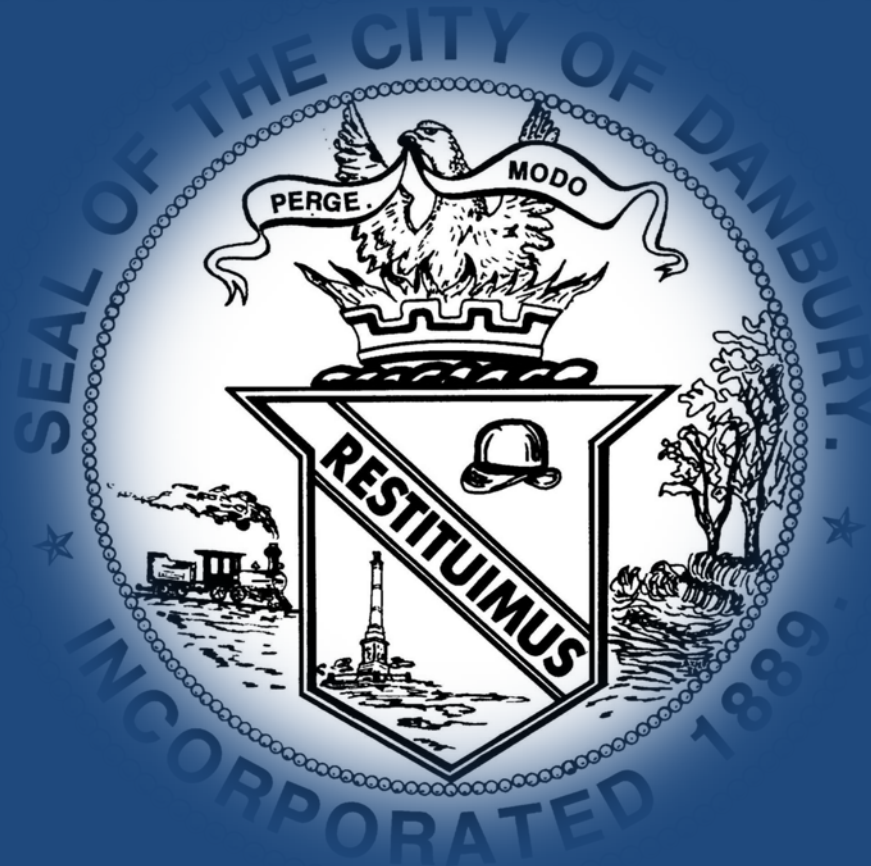


PRESENTED BY THE DANBURY ALL HAZARDS RISK REDUCTION TEAM

Jim Johnson,
Fire Marshall

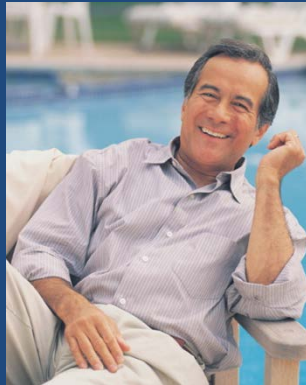


Matthew Cassavechia,
Director of EMS



A Fire Safety Campaign for People 50-Plus

PREVENT FIRE. SAVE LIVES.



FEMA

Over 50 and Loving It!

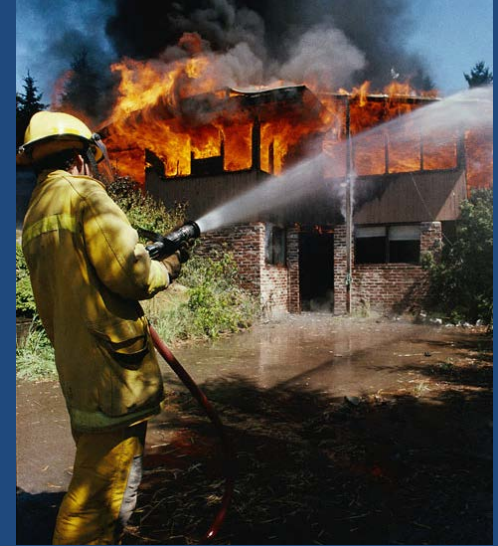


- ▣ Retirement
- ▣ Grandchildren
- ▣ Traveling
- ▣ Taking care of older relatives
- ▣ New career
- ▣ Practicing safe cooking, smoking, and heating behaviors.



Did you know...

- ▣ Fire kills approximately 1,100 people ages 65 and older each year.
- ▣ People between ages 65 and 74 are TWICE as likely to die in a home fire.
- ▣ People between ages 75 and 84 are nearly FOUR times as likely to die in a home fire.
- ▣ People ages 85 and older are more than FIVE times as likely to die in a home fire.
- ▣ You can do something about it...



Smoke Safely

- ▣ Careless smoking is the leading cause of fire deaths among people ages 65 and older.
- ▣ Careless smoking is the second leading cause of fire injuries among people ages 65 and older.



Smoke Safely cont...

- ▣ If alcohol or medication makes you drowsy, or you're just plain tired, put your cigarette out right away.
- ▣ Never smoke in bed.
- ▣ Use deep ashtrays and put your cigarette all the way out.
- ▣ Don't walk away from a lit cigarette.



Cook Safely

- ▣ Cooking is the leading cause of fire injuries for people ages 65 and older.
- ▣ Cooking is the third leading cause of fire deaths for people ages 65 and older.



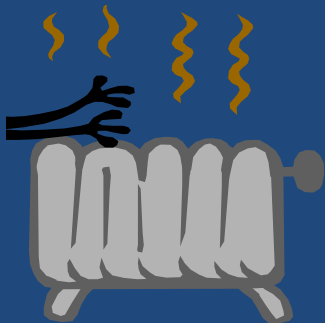
Cook Safely Cont...

- ❑ Never leave cooking unattended. A serious fire can start in just seconds.
- ❑ Always wear short or tight-fitting sleeves when you cook. Keep towels, pot holders and curtains away from flames.
- ❑ Never use the range or oven to heat your home.
- ❑ Double-check the kitchen before you go to bed or leave the house.



Heat Your Home Safely

- ▣ Heating is the second leading cause of fire death for people ages 65 and older.
- ▣ Fires caused by heating are the third leading cause of fire injury for people ages 65 and older.



Heat Your Home Safely cont..

- ▣ Space heaters need space. Keep heaters at least three feet away from your bed, curtains, and flammable materials.
- ▣ When buying a space heater, look for a control feature that automatically shuts off the power if the heater falls over.
- ▣ Keep fire in the fireplace by making sure you have a screen large enough to catch flying sparks and rolling logs.



Get Out Alive

▣ Smoke Alarms:

- Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home, test batteries monthly and change them at least once a year

▣ Home Fire Escape Plan:

- Develop and practice a fire escape plan regularly, at least twice a year. Keep exits clear of debris.

▣ Home Fire Sprinklers:

- If at all possible, install residential sprinklers in your home.



Scald Prevention



Developed by:
**American Burn Association
Burn Prevention Committee**

Funded by:
**United States Fire Administration/
Federal Emergency Management Agency**



What is a Scald Injury?

- ▣ A scald injury occurs...
 - When contact with hot liquid or steam damages one or more layers of skin



Scald Prevention Topics

- ▣ What are the main sources of scald injury?
- ▣ Who are the most frequent victims?
- ▣ How can scald injury be prevented?
- ▣ What are the appropriate first-aid responses?



Frequent Scald Burn Sources

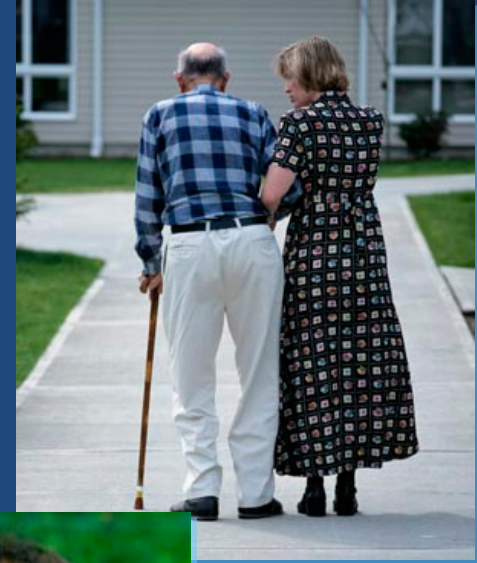


- ▣ Hot tap water
- ▣ Hot beverages
- ▣ Hot food
- ▣ Steam



Most Frequent Scald Injury Victims

- ▣ Young children
- ▣ Older adults
- ▣ People with disabilities



Older Adults and Scald Injury

- ▣ Thin skin
- ▣ Reduced mobility, agility
- ▣ Reduced ability to feel heat, due to health conditions or medication



People with Special Needs and Scald Injury

- ▣ Sensory impairment
- ▣ Mobility or other physical impairment
- ▣ Diminished mental capacity



Common Sites of Scald Injury

- ▣ Kitchen or dining area
 - Spills while handling or moving hot foods and liquids, often involving children
- ▣ Bathing Area
 - Inability to remove self from hot water



Scald Injury Severity Factors

- ▣ Length of contact with hot substance
- ▣ Temperature of substance
- ▣ Nature of substance
 - Is it thick or sticky?
 - Does it retain heat?
- ▣ Extent of body area scalded
- ▣ Location of scald



Protecting Adults from Scalds: Bathing Areas

Household Modifications

- ▣ Establish safe hot water temperature
- ▣ If this is not possible, install tempering valve or safe faucet and shower heads
- ▣ Install non-slip bath, shower mats
- ▣ Install grab bar in shower stall



Setting a Safe Hot Water Temperature

Time and temperature relationship
required to scald a healthy adult

155° F	68° C	1 Second
140° F	60° C	5 Seconds
127° F	52° C	1 Minute
120° F	48° C	5 Minutes
100° F	38° C	Safe Bathing Temperature



Tap Water Scald



Maximum Water Temperature Standards

- ▣ Recommended maximum residential standard
120°F (48°C)

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

- ▣ Nursing homes and child care facilities
110°F (43°C)

Recommended and by some state or
local regulations



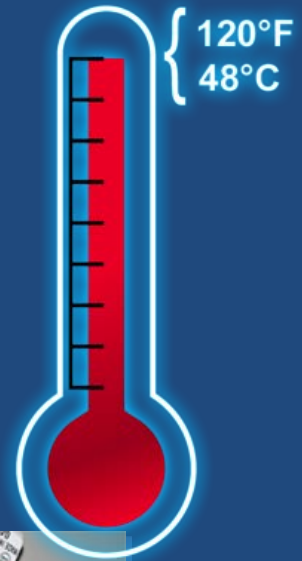
Measuring Hot Water Temperature

- ▣ Run hot water up to two minutes at tap
- ▣ Test temperature with cooking thermometer



Establishing a Safe Hot Water Temperature

- ▣ If initial test temperature is above 120° F (48° C), lower heater thermostat setting
- ▣ Initial test temperature below 120°F/48°C may not prove safety is constant
- ▣ Retest several times until safe temperature setting is assured



Bathroom Scald Prevention - Equipment

Direct (scald prevention)

- ▣ Tempering valve
 - on water line

- ▣ Anti-scald valves
 - on shower heads and faucets



Bathroom Scald Prevention - Equipment

Indirect (fall prevention)

- ▣ Grab bars
- ▣ Non-slip mats in tub/shower, on floor
- ▣ Shower/bath seat



Bathroom Scald Prevention - Precautions

- ▣ For single control faucet, always turn on and off in the “cold” position
- ▣ For dual control faucet, always turn “cold” faucet on first, and off last
- ▣ Make sure all household members and caregivers understand these controls



Bathroom Scald Prevention Behaviors

- ▣ Check water temperature before getting in tub or shower



Emergency Care of Scald Injury

- ▣ Remove scald victim from source
- ▣ Remove all affected clothing, diapers, shoes, etc.
- ▣ Cool scalded area briefly with cool water
- ▣ Cover with clean, dry covering
- ▣ Do not apply creams, salves or ointments
- ▣ Call 9-1-1



Scald Prevention – Some Important Points

- ▣ Limited mobility and thin skin increase risk and severity for the young and old
- ▣ Keep young children away when cooking, or when drinking hot beverages
- ▣ Test hot water temperature and establish thermostat setting at or below 120°F/48°C



For More Information Contact



Matthew Cassavechia
Director, Emergency Medical Services
City of Danbury EMS
(203)739-7493
m.cassavechia@danbury-ct.gov



Jim Johnson
Danbury Fire Marshal
Community Risk Reduction
(203)796-1541
j.johnson@danbury-ct.gov