

home fire safety and older people

Why is it important people learn about home fire safety?

Fire spreads very quickly. Fire services estimate there is little time, often only minutes, from the start of a house fire to full involvement of the fire in the room of origin.

How common are house fires in Tasmania?

Tasmania has the highest number of house fire deaths and injuries per capita in the nation, with both the elderly and very young over represented.

The Tasmanian accidental house fire rate in 2011-12 was 154 per 100,000 households, compared to the Australian rate of 100 accidental fires per 100,000 households in 2010-11 (source: *Report on Government Services 2012, Productivity Commission*).

Why do we have more house fires in Tasmania than other states?

The relatively high rate in Tasmania is due in part to our cooler climate, the higher proportion of the population having lower disposable income and the higher proportion of the population being older Tasmanians.



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The *Home Fire Safety Peer Education Program* is a state project conducted by COTA Tasmania.

The program has been developed and implemented in partnership with the Tasmania Fire Service and is presented by COTA trained volunteer peer educators.

The Tasmania Fire Service is responsible for the protection of life, property and the environment from fire and other emergencies.



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home fire safety

Free information sessions
for Seniors Clubs and Groups



Book a free home fire safety information session

Peer Educators from COTA in Tasmania are now available to host interactive home fire safety information sessions for your seniors group or club.

These sessions focus on learning about home fire safety including the importance of:

- Fire characteristics, fire service and fire facts
- Home fire safety- high risk groups
- Behaviour in the home that may contribute to fire injury and/or fatality
- Smoke alarms- role, placement and testing.

COTA TAS is an independent not-for-profit organisation and the peak body representing the needs and interests of older people in Tasmania.

It operates an experienced and long standing Peer Education program where trained volunteers aged 50 and over talk with seniors groups about issues of health and well-being including home fire safety.

How to book a 'home fire safety' information session

- Complete the attached booking form and post or fax it to COTA TAS and we will be in touch with you
- Telephone the Peer Education Coordinator on 6231 3265



Contact Us

COTA TAS

'Westella'

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HOART TAS. 7000

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Tasmania Fire Service



home fire safety booking form

Club/Group Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Telephone: _____

Postal Address: _____

Postcode: _____

E-mail address: _____

Number in Group: _____

Male, Female or mixed group: _____

Venue and Address where session will be held:

Venue: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____

Car Parking (please circle:) On Site Street

Other: _____

Equipment available (please circle):

TV/Video Whiteboard Microphone

Other: _____

Date for session (in order of preference):

Peer Educators may not be available on your preferred date so please provide alternative dates.

Day: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Time Peer Educator is to arrive: _____

Duration of session: (45 minutes to 1 hour) _____

Any special requests? _____

For further information on
home fire safety contact:
Tasmania Fire Service on **1800 000 699**
or visit **www.fire.tas.gov.au**