Fire Safety Tips for Older Ohioans

- Install a smoke detector on each level of the home and inside each bedroom.

- Check the smoke detectors monthly and change the batteries at least twice a year. Caregivers are encouraged to check detectors for those who are unable to do it by themselves.

- Make a fire escape plan for the home and know two ways out of the home.

- Make any necessary accommodations, such as providing exit ramps and widening doorways to facilitate an emergency escape.

- Speak to family members, the building manager or neighbors about your fire safety plan and practice it with them.

- Ask emergency providers to keep senior citizens’ special needs information on file.

- In multi-story homes, make arrangements to sleep on the ground floor, if possible, or near an exit.

- Never smoke in bed or near an open oxygen source, gas stove or other flammable object.

- When cooking, don’t leave pots and pans unattended. Use a timer to remind you of food in the oven. Avoid wearing loose clothing or dangling sleeves while cooking.

- Don’t overload electrical outlets or extension cords.