

## **GPSC Safety Alert**

## **Upholstered Furniture**

Fires involving upholstered furniture are a leading cause of fire-related deaths associated with consumer products in the United States.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's staff is working on a new mandatory safety standard for the fire resistance of upholstered furniture. The goal of a standard would be to prevent ignition or slow down the spread and reduce the heat of a fire. This would give residents more time to escape a fire, and firefighters and other first responders more time to save lives and property.



Here is what you can do now to keep your family safe.

- Use special care when smoking near upholstered furniture, such as recliners and sofas. Extinguish cigarettes properly when finished.
- Never let children play with matches or cigarette lighters.
- Install smoke alarms on each level of your home and inside each bedroom.
- Never let a candle burn unattended.
- Do not use a space heater or other heat source near upholstered furniture.

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