

We Need to Talk...

To participate in a *We Need to Talk* seminar, please contact your local state AARP representative or call **1-888-687-2277** if you do not have your local contact information.

For additional materials and information on *We Need to Talk*, please visit The Hartford website at:

[www.thehartford.com/
talkwitholderdrivers](http://www.thehartford.com/talkwitholderdrivers)

The seminar was produced by AARP based on information created jointly by The Hartford and the MIT AgeLab.



AARP Driver Safety Program

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In Partnership With:



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D18791(910)

AARP Driver Safety Program

**We Need
to Talk...**
Family Conversations
with Older Drivers



HEALTH / FINANCES / CONNECTING / GIVING / ENJOYING

We need to talk...

Overview

Statistics indicate that older adults are safe drivers with good driving records. However, medical conditions, medication usage, and age-related changes in physical and mental function can increase the risk of crashes and injuries among older adults.

We Need To Talk (WNTT) provides participants with a 90-minute seminar led by trained facilitators. They will lead discussions on topics such as when it is a good time to talk with older family members or friends about their driving, who should open the discussion, what are the warning signs that an older driver should limit or stop driving, and how to develop a transportation plan that will still allow the older adult to get out and remain a part of their community.

“It’s my duty as her son. I can’t walk away from this. That would be irresponsible.”



Conversations

“The timing has to be right. I have to be careful with finding a time that will be less emotional, less confrontational. And then I have to talk about it periodically.”

Driving is linked to freedom and independence. Talking with an older driver about limiting or stopping driving can be a difficult and challenging conversation.

Ideally, the first conversations about safety should occur long before driving becomes a problem.

Of the older adults surveyed who reported that someone had talked to them about their driving, more than half said they listened to and followed the suggestions of others.

Older drivers typically express strong emotions when someone talks to them about driving. Therefore, it is important to have the conversation with the correct person. Options include spouses, doctors, adult children, or a close friend.

Additional Information

“I don’t want to talk to them like children, taking away their dignity. I am trying to avoid doing that.”

This AARP seminar includes The Hartford publication, *We Need to Talk...Family Conversations With Older Drivers* and the 2006 Telly Award winning video, *We Need To Talk*, Bronze Medal Winner for Industry Instruction Video.

