

## Types of Smoke Alarms:

There are two basic types of fire alarms, ionization and photoelectric. Ionization alarms are quicker at detecting flames, while photoelectric alarms are faster at sensing smoke. Since you want to be protected in all fire situations, the United States Fire Administration recommends installing both types of alarms, or alarms that contain both types of sensors, labeled "dual sensor alarms." Such alarms can be found at your local hardware, home improvement, or super store.

If someone in your home is hearing impaired, it is important to also install a smoke alarm especially for them. It may use flashing lights and/ or vibration to better alert household members who cannot hear the warning of a standard smoke alarm.

## Additional Fire Safety Information:

- Plan and practice a fire escape plan with your entire family. Practice staying low and crawling to safety. Remember, smoke alarms only sound the first warning, you need to know what to do in case your alarm sounds.
- Don't leave matches or lighters lying around for little hands to find. Watch where you burn candles.
- If you do experience a fire, get out and stay out. Call the fire department from a neighbor's house or cell phone.
- If you have any additional fire safety questions, contact your fire department at their non-emergency phone number.



## Your Fire Department Reminds You To:

### CHANGE YOUR CLOCK



### CHANGE YOUR BATTERY

## Smoke Alarms Help Save Lives

Having just one working smoke alarm properly installed in the home can cut the risk of dying, in a home fire, in half.

*We recommend you install one on every level of your home and in all sleeping areas.*






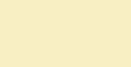
# SMOKE ALARMS

Your First Line Of Defense



# SMOKE ALARMS HELP SAVE LIVES, BUT ONLY IF THEY CONTAIN A WORKING BATTERY!

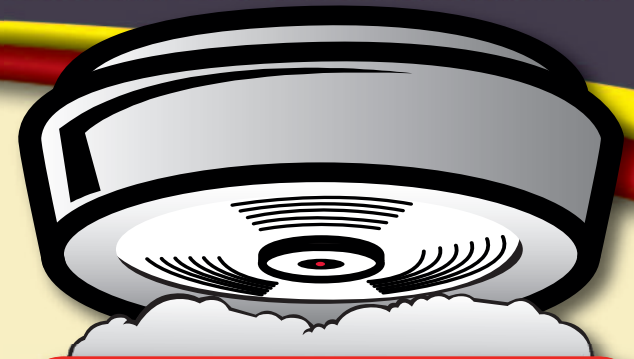
## Did You Know:

-  If every home had working smoke alarms, almost 900 lives could be saved each year.
-  The presence and proper maintenance of smoke alarms increases your chances of surviving a fire by 50%.
-  Most people die in the first 5 minutes of a fire.
-  You can't smell smoke when you're sleeping. If anything, smoke will put you into a deeper sleep.
-  In a fire, heat at the floor is 90°F, at head height the temperature is 600°F, and at the ceiling the temperature is 800°F. Heat at 150°F will render you unconscious and kill you.
-  A fire burning in a house for 1 minute grows to 3 times its original size; 11 times by 4 minutes, and at 6 minutes, it reaches 50 times its original size.





***Smoke Alarms Provide an Early Warning in the Event of a Fire—Where Seconds Count!***

## How to Keep Your Smoke Alarm Working

-  Test all smoke alarms once a month by briefly pressing the test button.
-  Hard-wired smoke alarms with battery backup still need to be tested monthly.
-  Never remove working smoke alarm batteries for ANY reason, such as a child's toy, etc.
-  Keep your smoke alarms free of dust and debris.
-  Keep spare batteries on hand.
-  If your smoke alarm starts to "chirp", the batteries are low. Promptly replace the batteries and reset the alarm.
-  Replace batteries in all your smoke alarms 1-2 times a year. A good rule of thumb is change your clock, change your smoke alarm batteries.



## Don't Gamble With Your Life Or The Lives Of Your Family.

-  Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, including the basement, and in all sleeping areas.
-  Most smoke alarms need to be replaced every 8-10 years, even those that are hard-wired with battery backup. You may want to note the purchase date on the inside of your alarms so you know when to replace them.
-  If your smoke alarm goes off while you are cooking—DO NOT DISABLE IT! Some smoke alarms have a "hush" button, but if yours does not, wave a towel near the alarm to clear the air.
-  Make sure all household members know the sound of the smoke alarm. If children are not awakened by the sound, establish a plan for waking them in case of fire.