



Have You Tested Your Smoke Alarm Lately?

Every year in the United States, about 3,000 people lose their lives in residential fires. Most fire victims die from inhalation of smoke and toxic gases, not as a result of burns. Most deaths and injuries occur in fires that happen at night while the victims are asleep.

Properly installed and maintained smoke alarms in the home are considered one of the best and least expensive means of providing an early warning of a potentially deadly fire. Smoke alarms save lives, prevent injuries, and minimize property damage by enabling residents to detect fires early. The risk of dying from fires in homes without smoke alarms is twice as high as in homes that have working smoke alarms.

PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS:

Plan of Escape:

- Develop and practice your family fire escape plan.
- Decide where the family will meet after you vacate the premises.

Maintenance Tips:

- Test smoke alarms once a month by pushing the "test button."
- Replace smoke alarm batteries when resetting clocks in the fall or spring.
- Clean smoke alarms using a vacuum cleaner without removing the alarm's cover.
- Replace smoke alarms every 10 years.

Alarms for the Hearing Impaired:

- Smoke alarms for the hearing impaired have a built in strobe light. The alarm has both an audible and visible signal and can be mounted in ceilings and walls.

NEVER!!!!

- Disable your smoke alarm, even if you experience "false" alarms while cooking or showering.
- Go back into a burning home to retrieve/find a pet.