



What you should know about smoke alarms



Smoke Alarms Save Lives

- Make sure your smoke alarms are working.
 - Test the alarms monthly and replace batteries once a year.
- It's important to have smoke alarms in different locations.
 - On each level, outside sleeping areas and inside bedrooms.
- Interconnect your smoke alarms, when one goes off, all go off.
 - You can do this by hard wiring or with wireless broadcast technology.
- Develop and practice an escape plan so everyone will know what to do when the alarms sounds.
 - Plan a second way out of every room, to improve the time you have to escape the fire.

Smoke Alarm Technology

- Ionization smoke detectors are more responsive to flaming fires.
- Photoelectric smoke detectors are more responsive to smoldering fires.
- Either type of smoke alarm will provide sufficient time for escape for most people from most fires. For the best protection, you can use both types, or purchase a smoke alarm that includes both technologies in one unit.
- Many newer models of smoke alarms can be linked so that all will sound when one is impacted.
- If you have children or young adults in your home, studies have shown that alerting them with a "family voice" is more effective at waking them, than the alarm. Voice recordable alarms are available at reasonable costs.

For more information go to <http://www.nfpa.org/>