Smoke Alarms

A working smoke alarm is your first line of defence if there is a fire in your home.

SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

If the alarm sounds...

- Get out and stay out.
- Never go back inside for people or pets.
- If you have to escape through smoke, get low and crawl under the smoke toward your exit.
- Call 911 from outside your home.

Maintain your smoke alarms.

- Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions when installing smoke alarms.
- Install smoke alarms within 5 metres of each bedroom.
- Test alarms each month by pressing and holding the test button.
- Replace all alarms (both electrical and battery-operated) every 10 years.
- Replace alarm batteries when you change your clocks for Daylight Savings Time.
- Vacuum out the alarm every 6 months.

Fire Facts

- 70% of people who die in home fires either don’t have smoke alarms or their smoke alarms aren’t working.
- According to the National Fire Protection Association, a properly installed, fully-functioning smoke alarm cuts the risk of dying in a fire by 50%.
- Fire fatalities occur as a result of breathing in smoke and toxic gases, not from the fire itself. That’s why the early detection provided by smoke alarms is vital for survival.

Remember, smoke rises.

- When installing smoke alarms, place them on the ceiling or high up on a wall according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
- Consider adding interconnected smoke alarms. This way, if one smoke alarm goes off, they all do, helping to keep everyone safe.

Make sure everyone can hear the smoke alarms.

- Smoke alarms and alert devices/accessories are available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as for those who are heavy sleepers.
- Strobe lights or pillow/bed shakers are also available.

FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

Do you...

- Have working smoke alarms on all levels of your home?
- Have Carbon Monoxide alarms outside all sleeping areas?
- Dust the outside of your alarms periodically?
- Have a home fire escape plan and periodically practice it?
- Have house numbers clearly visible from the street?

PLAN AND PRACTICE YOUR HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLAN. ALWAYS KNOW TWO WAYS OUT OF EACH ROOM.