

Smoke Alarms



Facts

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):

- Smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in a fire by half.
- Each year nearly 3,000 people die in U.S. home fires.
- In 2003-2006, roughly two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from home fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.
 - No smoke alarms were present in 40% of the home fire deaths.
 - In 23% of the home fire deaths, smoke alarms were present but did not sound.
- In a 2008 telephone survey, only 12% knew that smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years.

Safety Tips

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom and outside every sleeping area.
- Photoelectric and Ionization alarms are the best type of protection alarm.
 - Test the alarms every month by pushing the test button.
- Replace batteries of smoke alarms every year, also when it starts "chirping" signaling it is dying.
- Smoke alarms that include a recordable voice announcement in addition to the usual alarm sound, may be helpful in waking children through the use of a familiar voice.
- Smoke alarms are available for people who are <u>deaf or hard of hearing</u>. These devices use strobe lights. Vibration devices can be added to these alarms.