



NYPD COMMUNITY AFFAIRS BUREAU

"Police and Community Working Together"

Daylight Saving Time Ends, Check Smoke, CO Alarm Batteries

Each year 3000 people die in residential fires across the country. In nearly 90% of the cases the residences either did not have a smoke detector installed or the smoke detector was not working properly.

Why should I have a working smoke alarm?

A properly installed and maintained smoke alarm is the only thing in your home that can alert you and your family to a fire 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Whether you're awake or asleep, a working smoke alarm is constantly on alert, scanning the air for fire and smoke.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in properties without working smoke alarms. A working smoke alarm significantly increases your chances of surviving a deadly home fire.

Are smoke alarms expensive?

Smoke alarms are not expensive and are worth the lives they can help save. Ionization and photoelectric smoke alarms cost between \$6 and \$20. Dual sensor smoke alarms cost between \$24 and \$40.

Install smoke alarms in key areas of your home.

Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, including the basement. Many fatal fires begin late at night or early in the morning, so the U.S. Fire Administration recommends installing smoke alarms both inside and outside of sleeping areas. Since smoke and many deadly gases rise, installing your smoke alarms and CO detectors at the proper level will provide you with the earliest warning possible. Always follow the manufacturer's installation instructions.

