



SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

Smoke Alarms Save Lives

The most important things you need to know are smoke alarms save lives and they should be in every home.

Follow these important smoke alarm safety measures:

- **Make sure your smoke alarms are working.** This means testing smoke alarms monthly, replacing batteries once a year or when a low-battery alarm chirps and performing other maintenance as NFPA and your smoke alarm manufacturers recommend. And of course, a smoke alarm disabled because of nuisance alarms provides no protection at all.
- **It is important to have not just one smoke alarm but smoke alarms in every location required by NFPA standards.** (On each level of your home, outside each sleeping area and inside each bedroom.)

Tens of millions of U.S. homes are estimated to have smoke alarms but not enough smoke alarms to meet the standards and protect their homes.

- **Interconnect your smoke alarms so that a fire detected by any smoke alarm will sound an alarm at every location where a smoke alarm is installed.** Interconnection can be done using hard-wiring or wireless broadcast technology. Interconnected smoke alarms provide early warning of fires that are still far away or are located on the other side of a door or wall that may block sound.

- **Develop and practice an escape plan so that everyone in the home knows what to do if the smoke alarm sounds.** That includes planning a second way out from every room in your home. Every household that develops and practices an escape plan with two ways out from every location improves its time to escape in every type of fire.



WEST VIRGINIA STATE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
PUBLIC EDUCATION DIVISION
1207 QUARRIER STREET, 2ND FLOOR
CHARLESTON, WV 25301
304-552-8759 EXT. 53223
304-558-2537 - FAX

www.firemarshal.wv.gov