



Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection

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SATURDAY NIGHT: CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS AND THEN CHANGE YOUR SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES

This weekend, on March 8, we will “spring ahead” to daylight savings time. For many years the Fire Service along with the International Association of Fire Chiefs and Energizer batteries have used this event to remind people to change the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. By ensuring that the batteries in these life-saving tools are fresh, you can double your chances of surviving a home fire.

“Having a working smoke detector in your home doubles your chances of surviving a fire in your home,” said Alan Zygmunt the Public Fire and Life Safety Coordinator at the Connecticut Fire Academy. “The cost of replacing the batteries in all of your detectors is a small price to pay for your family’s safety.”

According to the National Fire protection Association (NFPA):

- About 3 out of every 5 home fire deaths occur in homes with no working smoke detectors.
- The risk of dying in a home fire is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms.
- Install smoke detectors on every level of the home and in every sleeping area.
- It is best if you use interconnected smoke alarms so if one goes off they all go off. This ensures everyone in the home knows of the emergency.
- Newer Smoke Alarms have 10 year batteries which do not need to be changed but still should be checked monthly to ensure they are functional.
- Every family should also have a home escape plan, and everyone in the home should be familiar with it.

The Connecticut Fire Academy is the teaching arm of the Connecticut Commission on Fire Prevention and Control. Part of their mission is educating the public in fire and burn prevention.

NOTE: Some newer smoke alarms have 10-year batteries and the entire unit must be replaced.

For more information, contact Alan Zygmunt at 860-627-6363, extension 222.