



It's that time of year again! Change Your Clock, Change Your Batteries™!

Change Your Clocks/Change your Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarm Batteries on Sunday, November 5

On Sunday, November 5th, Division of Fire is joining fire departments nationwide in promoting the annual Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery campaign.

Division of Fire encourages all residents to adopt the simple, life-saving habit of changing smoke alarm batteries when they change their clocks back from daylight savings time to standard time. It's an easy, inexpensive, and proven way to protect your family and your home.

Almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with either no smoke alarms or smoke alarms that didn't work. The National Fire Protection Association reports that 71% of smoke alarms which failed to operate had missing, disconnected or dead batteries. This reinforces how important it is to take this time each year to check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. The peak time for home fire fatalities is between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., when most families are sleeping. A working smoke alarm can provide the critical extra seconds needed to get people out safely.

The maximum life cycle of a smoke alarm is 10 years from the date of manufacture, NOT the date of installation. Beginning in 2002, all smoke alarms must have a manufacture date marked on the outside of the smoke alarm. If your smoke alarm does not have a manufacture date, then it is more than 10 years old and must be replaced. The Richmond Heights Division of Fire recommends purchasing smoke alarms with 10-year lithium batteries. All smoke alarms should be tested monthly.