

Check Safety Alarms Regularly

When you change your clocks in the spring and fall due to daylight saving time's start and end, take time to also test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and to replace their batteries.

The devices should be tested monthly to ensure their alarms are working. When testing alarms, keep in mind that batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors should be replaced at least once a year unless the alarms have sealed, 10-year batteries.

If your smoke detector is 10 years old, the device should be replaced. The manufacture date should be on the back of the alarm. Even alarms hardwired into your home's electrical system should be replaced as their sensors can malfunction over time.

Tips on carbon monoxide alarms

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. More than 150 people die in the United States each year from accidental, non-fire-related carbon monoxide poisoning associated with consumer products, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Association.

Residents with any of the following are encouraged to install carbon monoxide alarms:

- Wood or gas cook stoves
- Gas or wood-burning fireplaces
- Natural gas- or liquefied petroleum gas-powered heating units
- Gas water heaters

Tips on smoke alarms

Three out of five fire deaths in homes occur in properties without smoke alarms or without working alarms, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each bedroom and on every level of the home.
- For the best protection, interconnect all smoke alarms so they all sound when one sounds.
- Test smoke detectors at least once a month using the test button. This includes smoke detectors that have a 10-year worry-free battery.
- Practice your home escape plans while utilizing your smoke detector so everyone knows what to do when they hear the alarm.

MAKE IT A HABIT!



When you change your clocks for daylight saving time, don't forget to change batteries in your safety devices.

YOUR ALARMS SHOULD BE TESTED MONTHLY