

## Smoke Alarms are Your First Line of Defense



Smoke alarms sense smoke they sound an alarm to alert you of a fire. Make sure you have smoke alarms properly installed throughout your home. There are two kinds of alarms: Ionization and photoelectric. Both offer good protection. If you are unsure about where to install your smoke alarms, call your local fire department.

- Make sure your alarms are UL (Underwriter Laboratory) tested.
- Install at least one alarm on each floor of your home, including the basement.
- Check your alarms each month to make sure they are working.
- Put an alarm at the top of each stairway and at the ends of long hallways near bedrooms.
- The newest type of alarms are interconnected so multiple alarms in the home will all sound when an alarm alerting occupants.
- Keep extra batteries of the correct size on hand for replacement.
- Change batteries every 6 months – Change your batteries when you change your clocks
- Replace smoke alarms if they are over 10 years old.