



Are You Prepared?

CHANGE YOUR CLOCK-TEST YOUR SMOKE and CO DETECTOR 2012

San Rafael, CA – November 2, 2012 – As the Northeast continues to struggle from a devastating and killer storm, San Rafael Firefighters strongly urge all residents to “*Change Your Clock, Test Your Smoke Detector* on **Sunday, November 4, 2012, 2:00 AM** when Daylight Savings ends.

As you turn your clocks back, please test your home smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. See info on [Smoke Alarms](#)

Every three hours a home fire death occurs somewhere in the US, and 66% of those occur in homes without working smoke detectors because they are disconnected or have worn or missing batteries. It is very important to ensure your detector is working. A working life saving device greatly improves your chances of surviving a fire.

Please follow these tips on smoke alarms and fire safety:

Install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

- Place a smoke detector on the ceiling of every level of your home and outside bedrooms.
- Children and older people can sleep through the loud sound of a smoke alarm.
- Make sure your escape plan includes someone that can help children and others wake up.
- If you keep your bedroom doors closed, place a smoke alarm on the ceiling of each bedroom.
- Check smoke alarms at least monthly by pressing the test button.
- Never remove smoke alarm batteries or put them into other items.
- Teach children what the smoke alarm sounds like and what to do when they hear the alarm sound.
- If there is a fire, leave immediately by crawling low under the smoke.
- **Never go back inside and call 9-1-1.**
- If smoke or steam from cooking sounds an alarm, reset it. Turn on the kitchen fan, open a window or wave towel near the alarm until it stops making the sound. Never take the battery out of the alarm.
- Most alarms need a new battery at least once a year. Some smoke alarms have batteries that last up to 10 years. If your smoke alarm is over 10 years old, replace it with a new alarm and new battery.
- If you rent, see your landlord about placing a working smoke alarm in your home.
- Make sure your emergency flashlights work.
- Your Firefighters are specially trained and equipped to rescue your family and pets, as well as to protect your possessions. Help them by remaining together outside the home and directing them to family or valuables.
- Plan and practice escape plans several times a year.
- Make sure your whole family knows when and how to call emergency telephone numbers.
- Complete a CERT class and obtain and learn how to use a fire extinguisher.

We hope these fire safety tips will help keep your family safe. Please remember that fire prevention is always your best course of action. Please learn more about fire and life safety by visiting your Neighborhood Fire Station.

www.srfd.org

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