

BSFD Safety Alert



Smoke alarms can only save your life if they contain a working battery!

Effective January 1, 2015, state lawmakers updated the Florida Building Code to require the use of batteries that last 10 years in residential smoke detectors. This is a benefit to homeowners as they will not have to remember to replace their smoke alarm batteries every six months.

The new law reads:

“A battery-powered smoke alarm that is newly installed or replaces an existing battery-powered smoke alarm must be powered by a nonremovable, nonreplaceable battery that powers the alarm for at least ten years.”

Location, Location, Location

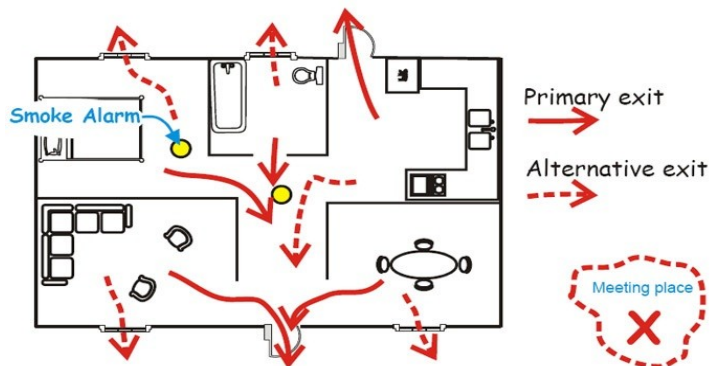


- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside each bedroom, and outside each sleeping area. Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they will all sound.
- Test your smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button.
- If you are not yet using the smoke alarms with the ten year battery, remember to change your batteries twice a year during Daylight Savings Time. When you change your clocks, change your smoke alarm battery!
- Did you know smoke alarms expire after 10 years? Check the date on the back to ensure your alarm stays in good working order.

Remember to have a Home Escape Plan:

- A home escape plan is a plan to get out of your home quickly.
- Get everyone in your home together. Map all doors and windows that lead outside.
- Make sure every door and window opens easily. Each family member should know how to open windows and doors with security bars or grills.
- Know at least two ways out of every room.
- Stairways, hallways, and exits should be clear of furniture or clutter.
- Choose one meeting place a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet once they have escaped.
- Have a plan for anyone in your home who may need assistance to escape.

ESCAPE PLANS



**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue District
at 239-949-6200**