

# Smoke Detectors

## Smoke Detectors Save Lives!

**They provide the first warning of at least 60% of fires that start at night. The sooner the fire is discovered, especially during sleeping hours, the less destructive and deadly the consequences. This is why smoke alarms should never be ignored!**

### Tips to know:

Installation: The smoke alarm should be at least 4 inches from the nearest wall or high on the wall between 4-12 inches from the ceiling.

### Placement:

- On the ceiling at least 4 inches from the nearest wall
- Between 4-12 inches from the ceiling.
- In open hallways or near sleeping areas
- Every room should have an alarm, but at least 1 on each floor
- **DO NOT** place near a window or door where it can affect the operation of alarm.



Testing: You should test your alarm every month by pushing the “test” button and listen for the alarm.

Battery Changes: Twice a year when you change your clocks, change your batteries. Changing the battery twice a year will make sure of the operation, but minimally they should be changed once a year. It is also recommended that the smoke alarm be replaced every 10 years.

False Alarms: There has come a time or two that you have disconnected the smoke alarm and/ or took the battery out while you are cooking. Majority of those times you remember to place the battery back in, but there can come a time that you will forget. This is not recommended to do. When your alarm sounds because of cooking or repair work being done in the home just simply open a window or wave a magazine under it to stop it from alarming.

The Romeoville Fire Prevention Bureau would gladly assist residents (such as seniors or disabled) in checking or replacement of your smoke detectors. Please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at (815) 372-4045.