



Tipp City Fire Department

520 W. Main Street • Tipp City • Ohio • 45371

Smoke Detectors

When fire occurs in your home, your chances for survival are two times better when smoke detectors are present than when they are not. Smoke detectors, when properly installed and maintained (following manufacturer's directions), provide early warning when fires occur. Early warning increases your chances for survival and allows the fire department to save more of your property. In support of smoke detector effectiveness, many cities and states have laws requiring the installation of smoke detectors in dwellings.

You will not smell the smoke of a fire when you are asleep. The poisonous gases which are present in the smoke will put you into a deeper sleep. During a fire, the smoke alarm will sound and give you the time you need to escape. A working smoke alarm cuts your risk of dying in a residential fire in half.

Be sure to buy one that is approved by the UL.

Ionization smoke Alarms:

Ionization smoke alarms use a small amount of radioactive material to create an electric current through ionized air. When smoke enters the detection chamber, it impedes or reduces the flow of current and causes the alarm to sound.

Photoelectric Smoke Alarms:

Photoelectric smoke alarms use a light source and a photocell. When smoke enters the detection chamber, it scatters the light beam deflecting it to the photocell and causes the alarm to sound.

Safety Tips:

Help save your life and property from fire:

1. For your protection, install a smoke detector outside of each bedroom or sleeping area and on every level of your home.
2. Keep your smoke detectors properly maintained. Test them at least once each month to insure that the detectors are working properly. Batteries in battery-operated detectors should be changed at least once yearly. Use only the type of batteries recommended on the detector.
3. If your smoke detector sounds an alarm when no smoke is present, consult with the manufacturer or with your local fire department. If smoke from cooking materials causes the detector to sound an alarm, do not remove the batteries or disconnect the power source. Simply fan the smoke away from the detector until the alarm stops. If this happens frequently, it may be necessary to relocate the detector or to install a different type of detector.
4. Develop an escape plan and review the plan with all members of the family frequently. Be aware that children and elderly people may need special assistance should fire occur. Establish a meeting place outside the house for all members of the family to insure that everyone got out safely. When fire occurs, get out of the house and use a neighbor's telephone to notify the fire department.