



TOWNSHIP OF WARMINSTER

Department of Emergency Management & Services

SMOKE ALARM FACTS

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- Smoke alarms are one of the most potent weapons in the fight against fire deaths.
- New homes require, per NFPA 72-National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, interconnected smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.
- For the best protection, all smoke alarms should be interconnected so that when one sounds, they all sound. (Think basement or kitchen fire while you are sleeping upstairs or in a distant room- If the first smoke alarm that sounds is outside your door, it's too late.)
- All smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years.
- The death rate was twice as high in homes that did not have any working smoke alarms as it was in home fires with working smoke alarms.
- More than a third of home fire deaths resulted from fires in properties with no smoke alarms.
- One- quarter of home fire deaths occurred where a smoke alarm was present, but did not operate. 47% of these had missing or disconnected batteries. 25% had dead batteries.

Wireless-interconnected smoke detectors are a new technology that allows older homes to have interconnected smoke detectors without running wires throughout the home. These are battery operated detectors that can be purchased at hardware stores and electrical supply houses and can be easily programmed.

- ✓ Verify your smoke detector works.
- ✓ Verify the age of your smoke detectors.
- ✓ If you are in an older home, make the investment in interconnected smoke alarms – wired or wireless.