Almost two-thirds of all home fire deaths occur in homes with no working smoke alarms. Protect your family by installing smoke alarms, inspecting them regularly, and practicing home fire drills.

Install
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, in hallways outside bedrooms or sleeping areas, and on every level of the home.
- Install smoke alarms on the ceiling or high on a wall. Make sure they are at least 10 feet from the stove and 3 feet from doors leading to the kitchen to reduce false alarms.
- Keep smoke alarms away from bathrooms with tubs or showers, heating or cooling ducts or vents, and ceiling or whole-house fans.
- Check the back for the manufacture date and replace all alarms when they are 10 years old.
- Use interconnected smoke alarms so when one sounds, they all sound.
- It’s safest to use both ionization and photoelectric smoke alarms. Ionization alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires.
- Special alarms with strobe lights and bed shakers are available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Inspect
- Test all smoke alarms once a month.
- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for cleaning to keep smoke alarms working well.

Protect
- Draw a home escape plan that shows two ways out of every room and an outside meeting place.
- Teach children what the smoke alarm sounds like and what to do if they hear it.
- Practice home fire drills at least twice a year.