



Olathe Fire Department

News Release

George Bentley, Fire Chief

A LIFESAVING CHANGE

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(OLATHE, Kan.) - As Daylight Saving Time approaches, we remind everyone to make a change that could potentially save their lives – changing the batteries in their smoke alarms on Sunday, March 9. Changing smoke alarm batteries at least once a year is one of the simplest, most effective ways to reduce tragic, fire deaths and injuries.

“Working smoke alarms provide an early warning and critical extra seconds to escape,” said Olathe Fire Chief George Bentley. “This is particularly important for those most at risk of dying in a home fire, such as children and older adults.”

In addition, Bentley asks everyone to test their smoke alarms by pushing the test button, planning “two ways out” and practicing those escape routes with the entire family. “Make checking your smoke alarms this weekend’s home project,” added Bentley.

Smoke Alarm Facts

It is estimated that 95% of U.S. homes have at least one smoke alarm, but 65% of reported home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with *no smoke alarms* or *no working smoke alarms*, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

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