

## WHY SHOULD MY HOME HAVE SMOKE AND CO ALARMS?

- Smoke alarms are important because during a fire, you may have less than three minutes to escape. They alert you to the danger and give your family time to get out. You are four times more likely to survive a home fire if you have a working smoke alarm.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) alarms are important because CO is a poisonous, odorless gas that is created when fuels burn. CO poisoning can be fatal at high levels, and can result from fireplaces, woodstoves, gas furnaces or other gas appliances, portable generators, or vehicles left running in garages. CO alarms installed in your home give you early warning of carbon monoxide.

## WHERE SHOULD I INSTALL SMOKE AND CO ALARMS?

- For increased protection, make sure you have working smoke alarms on every level of your home (including the basement), inside each bedroom, and in the hallway outside each bedroom.



Make sure you have working smoke alarms on every level of your home, and working smoke alarms and CO alarms inside each bedroom and in the hallway outside each bedroom.

SMOKE ALARMS ARE IMPORTANT BECAUSE DURING A FIRE, YOU MAY HAVE **LESS THAN THREE MINUTES** TO ESCAPE.

- For increased protection, make sure you have working CO alarms on every level of your home with bedrooms, inside each bedroom, and in the hallway outside each bedroom.
- For both types of alarms, follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height. For information on the number of alarms required by Oregon law, contact your local Building Codes Division.

## HOW DO I KEEP MY SMOKE AND CO ALARMS WORKING?

- Follow the manufacturer's recommendation for the type of battery to use in your smoke and CO alarms.
- Smoke alarms and CO alarms with a non-replaceable (long-life) battery are designed to be effective for up to 10 years. If the alarm chirps, immediately replace the alarm.
- For smoke alarms with any other type of battery (9 volt, AA, etc.), replace the battery at least once a year. If the alarm chirps, replace only the battery.

- Replace all smoke alarms that are 10 or more years old.
- Replace CO alarms according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

## HOW DO I TEST MY ALARMS?

- Test your alarm batteries by pushing the test button at least once a month.

## INFORMATION FOR RENTERS

- Oregon law requires landlords to provide working smoke alarms in rental dwellings. If you rent and do not have working smoke alarms, contact your landlord or property manager.
- Oregon law requires landlords to provide working CO alarms in rental dwellings with a CO source, and all residences built after 2011 are required to have CO alarms, even if there is not a source.
- Never disconnect or remove alarm batteries except to change them. Tenants should never remove or tamper with an alarm in a rental property.

## WHAT IF SOMEONE CANNOT OR DOES NOT HEAR THE SMOKE OR CO ALARMS?

- There are multi-sensory alarm options for people who are Deaf or hard of hearing.
- Children may sleep through the sound of an alarm, and may need assistance to wake up and get out. Fire safety is an adult responsibility. Recordable or "talking" smoke alarms, as well as low-frequency alarms, are available.

## WHAT IF I HAVE A NUISANCE ALARM WITH MY SMOKE ALARM?

- Many smoke alarms come with a hush feature, a button on the alarm that you push to silence nuisance alarms for up to 15 minutes while you clear the room of smoke.

## HOME FIRE SPRINKLER INFORMATION

- Home fire sprinklers, in combination with smoke alarms, are reliable and are proven to be the best way to protect your family and your home from fire.
- If you are building or remodeling a home, consider installing a home fire sprinkler system.
- If possible, choose to live in a home with fire sprinklers. If you are moving, make sure your home has a home fire sprinkler system.



Test your alarm batteries by pushing the test button at least once a month.

Pruebe las baterías de su detector pulsando el botón de prueba al menos una vez al mes.



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fb.com/OregonStateFireMarshal  
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FOR LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCIES, CALL 911.