

Change Clock = Change Batteries

Change Your Clock. Change Your Batteries.

Most fatal fires occur at night while you are asleep. Having a properly maintained and working smoke detector more than doubles your chances of survival. Every home should be protected by smoke detectors. Place a minimum of one smoke detector in every bedroom and in the main corridor outside of all sleeping areas. For multi-story homes, an additional smoke detector should be placed on every floor.

Just having a smoke detector is not enough. Eighty-six percent of all homes in the United States have at least one smoke detector but one-third of these are not working. Most smoke detector failures are attributed to a lack of annual battery replacement. The West Covina Fire Department suggests that you test your smoke detector monthly and that the battery of all smoke detectors in your home be changed at least twice a year.

A good way to remember to change your smoke detector battery is to associate it with the time change that occurs twice a year. We should all remember to change our smoke detector batteries, and the perfect time is when we go through our homes to change our clocks. Remember that when there is a fire you have no time. A residential home can be totally consumed in flames in less than five minutes. Since most fires occur between 2am and 6am, while most people are sleeping, the alarm of a smoke detector is your first line of defense.

Installing and maintaining smoke detectors dramatically increase your family's chances of surviving a fire. So remember, on April 6th, while you are changing the time on your clocks, take the time to change the battery of your smoke detectors. It could save you and your families life!

If you have any questions concerning smoke detectors or any other questions concerning fire safety please contact the San Gabriel Fire Department at (626) 308-2880.