

Fire/Smoke Alarm

Each home is equipped with a smoke detector that is a state of the art detector, which provides fast and accurate notification to the occupant in the event of a fire. Herein this document will be listed device features, maintenance procedures and safety procedures.

FEATURES:

- Weekly Test Button: Tests unit's electronic circuitry, horn and battery function
- Low Battery Indicator: Smoke alarm will chirp in the event of a low battery
- Red LED: Flashes every 30-40 seconds to indicate that the smoke alarm is receiving power
- Battery Operated (9V battery included): Protects even during power outages
- Ionization Sensor: Protects best on fast flaming fires

Occupant Responsibilities

• Alarms

In the event of an alarm, the occupant should immediately call 911, and then the maintenance WO Hotline (706-685-3929). To ensure the safety of the occupant(s), treat all alarms as a true emergency. There is no such thing as a false alarm, and if the detector engages into alarm, there is a reason (i.e. fire/smoke, faulty detector, dust atmosphere, etc...). In some cases, an alarm could be caused by a false situation, excessive smoke from cooking, dust from the HVAC or vacuuming. These so called "friendly fires" can cause the alarm to sound. If this happens, look for the cause. If the cause is considered to be a "friendly fire," open a window or fan the air away to remove the smoke or dust. The alarm will turn off as soon as the air is completely clear.

- **CAUTION:** Do not disconnect the battery from the detector. This will remove your protection from fires.
- **Note:** If the alarm horn begins to beep once a minute, this signal means that the detector's battery is weak. Install a new battery immediately. Keep fresh batteries on hand for this purpose.

• Battery Replacement

The occupant shall change the batteries for each detector once per year. In the event that the battery is low, an audible reminder in the form of a once-per-minute "beep" will sound after a few days. The low-battery "beep" should last at least 30 days before the battery dies out completely.

- Note: Batteries should be alkaline or lithium type batteries. Carbon zinc batteries are not acceptable. Alkaline batteries can be purchased at any retail store that sells batteries. The following alkaline 9V batteries are acceptable for proper operation: Eveready #522, #1222, #216; Duracell#MN1604; or Gold Peak #1604P, #1604S.

• Test the Detector

The occupant shall test the detector once a week using the test button on the front of the detector. The detector should be tested weekly and also whenever you suspect that it does not go into alarm. Push the test button firmly with your finger until the horn sounds (it may take up to 20 seconds). If the detector fails, have it repaired or replaced immediately to ensure that it works properly. Every 3 months, the smoke detector must be checked by using smoke detectors' test sprayer.



- **WARNING:** Never use an open flame of any kind to test your detector. You may set fire or damage the detector, as well as, your home. The built-in test switch accurately tests all detector functions, as required by Underwriters' Laboratories (UL). This is the only correct way to test the unit.
- **NOTE:** If the alarm horn produces a loud continuous sound, and the red LED flashes when you are not testing the unit, this means the detector has sensed smoke or combustion particles in the air. Verify that the alarm is a result of a possible serious situation, which requires your immediate attention.

- **Cleaning**

It is necessary to maintain the detector frequently to ensure it is working properly. Follow these tips for taking care of your detector:

- Use a vacuum cleaner to clean the detectors' air vents occasionally to keep them free of dust.
- **NOTE:** If false alarms keep occurring, clean as described above and call maintenance for further analysis/replacement.

- **Fire Safety Plans**

Putting up smoke detectors is only one step in protecting your family from fires. You must also reduce the chances of fires starting in your home. You must also increase your chances of escaping safely if one does start. To have a good fire safety program, you must apply the following tips to enhance your family's protection from fires:

- Carefully follow all the instructions in this manual. Keep your smoke detectors clean and test them every week. Remember that detectors that do not work will not alert you.
- Have your detectors replaced immediately if they are not working properly. To do so, call in a WO using the WO hotline.
- Follow fire safety rules, and prevent hazardous situations. Use smoking materials properly. Never smoke in bed. Keep matches and cigarette lighters away from children. Store flammable materials in proper containers. Never use them near open flame or sparks. Keep electrical appliances in good condition.
- Do not overload electrical circuits.
- Keep stoves, fireplaces, chimneys and barbecue grills grease free. Make sure they are clear and free of any combustible materials.
- Keep portable heaters and open flames, such as candles, away from combustible materials. Do not allow rubbish to accumulate.
- Keep a supply of extra batteries on hand for your battery powered smoke detectors.
- Develop a family escape plan and practice it with your entire family. Be sure to include small children in your practice. Draw a floor plan of your home, and find two ways to exit from each room. There should be one way to get out of each bedroom without opening the door.
- Explain to children what the smoke detector alarm signal means. Teach them that they must be prepared to leave the home by themselves if necessary.
- Show them how to check to see if doors are hot before opening them. Show them how to stay close to the floor and crawl if necessary.
- Show them how to use the alternate exit if the door is hot and should not be opened.
- Decide on a meeting place which is a safe distance from your house. Make sure that all of your children understand that they should go there and wait for you in the event there is a fire.

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- Hold fire drills at least every 6 months, making sure that everyone, even small children, know what to do to escape safely.
- Know where to go to call the Fire Departments outside your home.
- Provide emergency equipment, such as fire extinguishers, and teach your family to use this equipment properly.

If you have made an escape plan and practiced it with your family, their chances of escaping safely are increased. Go over the following rules with your children when you have fire drills. Practicing these drills will help everyone. For more information, contact your local Fire Department. They will give you more ideas about how to make your home safer from fires and how to plan your family's escape.

- **Remember the rules in a real emergency**

- Don't panic and stay calm. Your safe escape may depend on thinking clearly and remembering what you have practiced.
- Get out of the house as quickly as possible.
- Follow a planned escape route.
- Do not stop to collect anything or to get dressed.
- Feel the doors to see if they are hot. If they are not, open them carefully. Do not open a door if it is hot. Use an alternate escape route.
- Stay close to the floor. Smoke and hot gases rise. Cover your nose and mouth with a wet or damp cloth. Take short, shallow breaths.
- Keep doors and windows closed. Open them only if you have to in order to escape.
- Meet at your planned meeting place after leaving the house.
- Call the Fire Department as soon as possible from outside your house. Give the address and your name.
- Never go back inside a burning building.