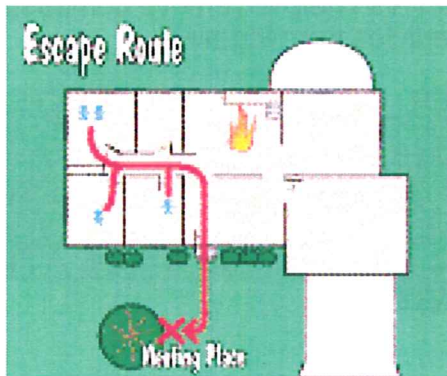


HOME ESCAPE PLANNING

- Make sure everyone knows the sound of the smoke alarm and what to do if a fire occurs.
- Draw an escape plan of your home. Include all doors, windows, hallways and stairways. Indicate two ways out of every room in case primary exits are blocked by smoke or fire. Select a pre-arranged meeting place outside your home and mark it on the plan.



- Once out, stay out and call the fire department (9-1-1) from a neighbour's home. Never go back into a burning building for any reason.
- Regularly practice your home fire escape plan with every member of your household.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH
THE FIRE CODE SMOKE ALARM
REQUIREMENTS COULD
RESULT IN A TICKET FOR \$235
OR A FINE OF UP TO \$50,000
FOR INDIVIDUALS OR \$100,000
FOR CORPORATIONS.**

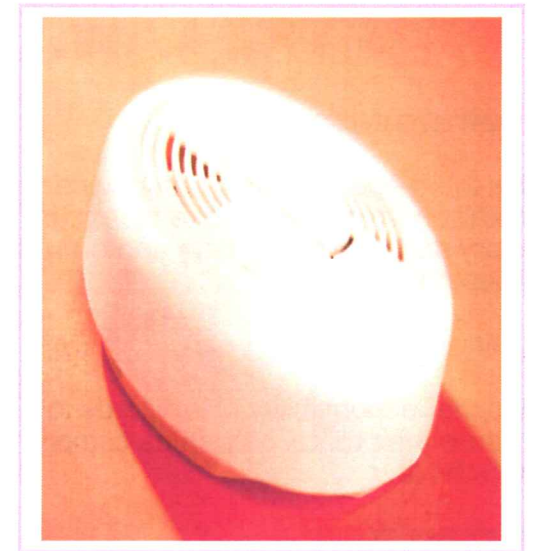


**WHITBY FIRE AND
EMERGENCY SERVICES
111 McKinney Drive
WHITBY, ON L1N 5R5**

**Phone (905) 668-3312
Fax (905) 430-8956
Web site www.whitby.ca**

WORKING SMOKE ALARMS

IT'S THE LAW!



**WHITBY FIRE AND
EMERGENCY SERVICES**

ONLY WORKING SMOKE ALARMS CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE!

**Every home in Ontario
must have a working
smoke alarm on every
storey and outside all
sleeping areas.**

IT'S THE LAW.

Homeowners

It is the responsibility of homeowners to install and maintain smoke alarms on every storey of their home and outside sleeping areas.

Landlords

It is the responsibility of landlords to ensure their rental properties comply with the law.

Tenants

If you are a tenant of a rental property and do not have the required number of smoke alarms, contact your landlord immediately. It is against the law for tenants to remove the batteries or tamper with the alarm in any way.

WHERE TO INSTALL SMOKE ALARMS

Because smoke rises, you should place alarms on the ceiling. If you cannot do this, place them high up on a wall, according to the manufacturer's instructions. Avoid locations near bathrooms, heating appliances, windows or close to ceiling fans.

SMOKE ALARM MAINTENANCE

Test your smoke alarms every month using the test button.



Replace smoke alarm batteries twice a year, and whenever the low-battery warning chirps.

Dust can clog a smoke alarm so carefully vacuum every six months.

Smoke alarms don't last forever. Replace smoke alarms with new ones if they are more than ten years old.

MANAGING NUISANCE ALARMS

A nuisance alarm is when a smoke alarm accidentally activates, generally due to cooking activities or steam from the shower. Fortunately, there are some very effective ways to address this problem:

- Install smoke alarms with a "pause" or "hush" feature.
- Move the alarm. Avoid having a smoke alarm too close to the cooking area. Keep ovens and burners clean, and turn down the setting on the toaster. Using the fan on the range hood when cooking can also help to remove combustion particles from the air.

NEVER REMOVE THE BATTERY FROM THE ALARM OR SHUT OFF THE CIRCUIT BREAKER. NOT ONLY IS IT AGAINST THE LAW, IT MAY LEAVE YOUR HOME AND YOUR FAMILY AT SERIOUS RISK IF A FIRE OCCURS.

TYPES OF SMOKE ALARMS

Ionization – Responds slightly faster to flaming-type fires.

Photoelectric – Responds slightly faster to smoldering-type fires.