

FREE SMOKE DETECTOR PROGRAM

The Stockton Fire Department offers a smoke detectors program that is designed to install smoke detection devices in the homes of Stockton residents that currently do not have one.

The Stockton Fire Department would like to see every home in our community equipped with a working smoke detector.

If you do not have a smoke detector and cannot afford one.

If you have a smoke detector, but it does not work.

We will come to your home and ensure that you have a working smoke detector

ABSOLUTELY FREE!

STOCKTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

To request a free smoke detector installation, please complete the attached form and return it to any Fire Station or contact the Stockton Fire Department Fire Prevention Division.

CONTACT US AT:

(209)937-8271



**STOCKTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION
345 N. EL DORADO STREET
STOCKTON, CA 95202**

CITY OF STOCKTON

Smoke Detector Program

**Our goal is to ensure
there is a working
smoke detector in
every home in Stockton.**



STOCKTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Smoke Detectors Save Lives

Everyone knows how important an alarm clock is, right? After all, virtually everyone has one in their home. But the latest report from the National Fire Protection Association indicated that 74% of reported home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. In half of the reported fires where there were no working smoke alarms, batteries were missing or disconnected, and batteries were dead in 15% of these incidents.

Some people say..."I don't need a smoke detector. If there is a fire in the middle of the night, I'll smell the smoke and wake up."

WRONG! When you go to sleep your sense of smell goes to sleep with you and unless the smoke is very acrid and irritates your nostrils as you breathe, you may not wake up at all.

Smoke created by fire contains a deadly gas called carbon monoxide. This deadly gas is odorless and colorless, you can't see it, taste it or smell it. As you breathe, it puts you into a deeper sleep. It can kill you before you know it.

Although we like to feel safe at home, most fatal fires occur at night when people are sleeping. Most deaths occur from inhaling smoke or poisonous gases, not from flames. A smoke detector can alert you when there is a fire, in time to save your life. Remember that the smoke alarm sounds only the warning. Develop and practice an escape plan to be sure that all members in your household can safely get out of a fire.

WHY SMOKE DETECTORS AND NOT HEAT DETECTORS? Smoke and deadly gases tend to spread faster and farther than heat which is why an operating smoke detector is so important to have. More people die from the effects of smoke and deadly gases by a margin of 2 to 1. A smoke detector will automatically sound a warning when it senses smoke or other products of combustion. When people are warned early enough about a fire, they can escape before it spreads.



HOW MANY SMOKE DETECTORS SHOULD I HAVE? At least one smoke detector in every bedroom and one outside in the hallway. Also you should install one detector on each level of the home, if you have a second floor or basement.

WHERE IS THE PROPER LOCATION FOR A SMOKE DETECTOR? Generally on the ceiling at least 4 inches out from the wall. If you must install them on the wall, install them at least 4 inches down from the ceiling but no lower than 12 inches from the ceiling. Keep them high because smoke rises. Place smoke detectors at the top of each stairwell and at the end of each long hallway. Remember, do not place them any closer than 3 feet of an air supply register that might recirculate smoke resulting in a delayed alarm. Be sure to keep the detector away from fireplaces and wood stoves to avoid false alarms.

HOW DO I KNOW IT WORKS? Testing is the only way to ensure that a smoke detector is working to protect you. Test each detector by pushing the test button (hold down for a few seconds) and listen for the alarm. **We recommend testing detectors monthly** to make sure they are operating properly. A working smoke detector greatly reduces your chance of dying in a home fire

WHAT ABOUT MAINTENANCE? Keeping smoke detectors in good condition is easy. Change the battery (if equipped) at least twice a year or sooner if the smoke detector signals a low battery. Clean the detector face and screen to remove dust. Test your smoke detector at least weekly. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

HOW DO I TEST MY SMOKE DETECTOR? Push the test button or test them with smoke. If you test them with smoke, use a match or candle. Blow out the flame and let the smoke drift up into the smoke detector. Never test the smoke detector with a flame!

WHAT IS THAT CHIRPPING NOISE? That noise, usually every 60 seconds or so, is indicative of a battery that is going dead. This signals you to change the battery as soon as possible. That signal may last for a couple of days, but once the battery is dead you will have no protection at all.