

FIRE SAFE

OREGON FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION PLAN



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APRIL

FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION PLAN

This month we will highlight two tools that are proven to save lives and should be in every home. Smoke and Carbon monoxide (CO) Alarms provide early detection for smoke and CO in the air. While these tools are not new technology, there are still plenty of homes left unprotected, putting people at risk. Throughout April we encourage our partners to use the provided tools to educate your audiences on the benefits of installing and maintaining these life saving alarms.

KNOW YOUR ALARMS

APRIL



NOTABLE DATES

- **April 1st** - April Fool's Day
- **April 2nd** - Autism Awareness Day
- **April 7th** - World Health Day
- **April 10th -16th** - National Public Safety Telecommunications Week
- **April 18th** - Tax Day
- **April 22nd** - Earth Day
- **April 29th** - Arbor Day
- Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month
- National Autism Awareness Month

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

April 13th, 2022

Let's Talk About Smoke & CO Alarms

[Register Here](#)

April 27th, 2022

Station Tour Best Practices

[Register Here](#)

Smoke Alarm Installation Program

For Oregon Fire Agencies

[April 18th, 2022](#) [April 29th, 2022](#)



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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KNOW YOUR ALARMS

MARCH

CALENDAR

April 3rd - 9th: Smoke alarms save lives.

- Every home should have working smoke alarms. Alarms provide early detection in the event of a home fire.
- Test smoke alarms regularly and plan a home fire escape.
- There are a variety of alarms to choose from including ionization alarms (alarms that are more responsive to flame fires), photoelectric alarms (alarms that are more responsive to smoldering fires), and combination alarms. These alarms may be battery powered or hardwired into the home. Understanding the type of alarms and their power source is important to ensure proper installation, maintenance and use.

NFPA Messaging: Smoke alarms save lives

- Working smoke alarms save lives, cutting the risk of dying in a home fire in half. Smoke alarms should be installed and maintained in every home.
- For the best protection or where extra time is needed to awaken or assist others, both ionization smoke alarms and photoelectric smoke alarms or combination ionization-photoelectric alarms, also known as dual sensor smoke alarms, are recommended.
- An ionization smoke alarm is more responsive to flaming fires, and a photoelectric smoke alarm is more responsive to smoldering fires.
- Choose a smoke alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory.

April 10th - April 16th: Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms

- Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a poisonous gas that is created when fuels burn. This invisible, tasteless, odorless gas can be deadly to people and pets if left undetected. CO alarms provide early warning when lethal levels of CO are present. CO can be especially dangerous when people are sleeping so an alarm should be installed on each level of a home where people sleep.
- Many homes host sources of CO such as water heaters, clothes dryers, furnaces, and even vehicles left idling in a garage.
- Never ignore a CO alarm. When the alarm sounds, all people and pets should leave the home and find fresh air.



NOW YOUR ALARMS

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NFPA Messaging: Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms

- Carbon monoxide (CO) is a gas you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is often called “the invisible killer.” It is created when fossil fuels such as kerosene, gasoline, coal, natural gas, propane, methane, or wood don’t burn completely. CO gas can kill people and pets.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning can result from gas-, gasoline-, and diesel fueled vehicles idling inside garages or from malfunctioning or improperly vented water heaters, clothes dryers, furnaces and other heating appliances, and portable generators.
- Headache, nausea, and drowsiness are symptoms of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.
- Exposure to carbon monoxide (CO) can be fatal.

April 17th - April 23rd: What is your alarm trying to tell you?

- When a smoke alarm beeps, it’s time to get out of the house. This is your alarm telling you there is smoke. A series of three beeps (Beep, Beep, Beep) followed by a short pause should tell everyone in the home that it is time to get out of the house. In the event of a false alarm, use that opportunity to practice your fire escape so everyone knows what to do in the case of a home fire.
- When a smoke alarm chirps, it is time to change the battery or the entire alarm. It is important to test your alarms regularly, but when you hear a quick chirp coming from your alarm, it is telling you that your alarm needs some attention. Often times a smoke alarm will need to be replaced completely, but other times, a battery can be replaced. Refer to the guide provided by your alarm manufacturer.
- For those who are Deaf and Hard of hearing, install a bed or pillow shaker alarms and strobe alarm to provide early warning to everyone in the home. A shaker alarm is used to wake them if a fire occurs while sleeping, while a strobe alarm uses flashing lights to indicate there is fire conditions and its time to use the home fire escape plan.



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April 24th - April 30th: Installation and Maintenance

Proper installation and maintenance of Smoke and Co Alarms is important to ensure they respond properly in the event of a fire or carbon monoxide leak. Once installed according to manufacturers guidelines, make sure to keep alarms clean of dust and debris.

Installing Smoke Alarms:

- Smoke alarms should be installed in each sleeping room, outside bedrooms within 21 feet of bedroom doors, and on each level of the home, including the basement and all smoke alarms are to be installed according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Installing Carbon Monoxide Alarms?

- Install CO alarms on each level of your home with bedrooms (sleeping areas). A CO alarm must be located within each bedroom or within 15 feet outside of each bedroom door. Bedrooms on separate floors in a structure containing two or more stories require separate CO alarms. All CO alarms must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended instructions. (OAR 837-047-0130)

***Please note: Some local ordinances have additional requirements. Check with your local building department.*

NFPA Messaging: Installation and Maintenance

- Test smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button.
- Make sure everyone in the home understands the sound of the smoke alarm and knows how to respond.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning to keep smoke alarms working.
- The instructions are included in the package or can be found on the internet.
- Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement. Larger homes may require additional smoke alarms to provide a minimum level of protection.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home for the best protection. When one sounds, they all sound. Make sure you can hear the sound of the smoke alarm.



KNOW YOUR ALARMS

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NFPA Messaging: Installation and Maintenance

- It is especially important to have interconnected smoke alarms, if you sleep with doors closed.
- Smoke alarms can be interconnected electrically by a qualified electrician or by installing battery-operated wireless interconnected smoke alarms.
- For the best protection or where extra time is needed to awaken or assist others, both ionization smoke alarms and photoelectric smoke alarms or combination ionization-photoelectric alarms, also known as dual sensor smoke alarms, are recommended.
- Choose a smoke alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Install smoke alarms away from the kitchen to prevent nuisance alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from a cooking appliance.
- New multi-criteria smoke alarm technology will state “helps reduce cooking nuisance alarms” on the packaging.

Available Resources:

The below resources are available to print from home, or if Oregon fire agencies and our partners would like printed materials for local distribution at events or in the classroom, please submit a request [HERE](#).

[Smoke and Co Alarm Brochure](#) (English and Spanish)

[Smoke Alarms, Do Yours Work? Flyer](#)

Videos:

[Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety PSA](#)

[Smoke Alarm Technologies for People Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing](#)

Oregon Fire agencies are encouraged to participate in OSFM’s Smoke Alarm Installation Program (SAIP). The purpose of this program is to provide smoke alarms to Oregon fire agencies to install in residences that are unprotected. For program specifics please visit our [webpage](#).



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