



GLOUCESTER COUNTY BUILDING INSPECTIONS
DEPARTMENT

Smoke Alarm Safety



It takes about 3 minutes to go from
this...



TO THIS!!!



The fire problem in the United States

- **81% of fire deaths occur in the home!**
- Each year:
 - 365,500 home fires reported
 - 2,560 deaths
 - 13,275 injuries
 - \$6.6 billion in property loss

The danger of smoke

- 8 out of 10 people die from breathing in the poisonous smoke... NOT from the flames of a fire.
- Home fires are more likely to occur when you are asleep between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m.
- Smoke will put you into a deeper sleep!

What can you do to help protect yourself and your family?

- Everyone's role
 - Prevent fires **before** they happen.
 - Take care while cooking and handling fire.
 - Properly extinguish candles and smoking material.
 - Never leave a source of fire unattended.
 - Have fire extinguishers charged and ready.
 - Use all electrical equipment properly.
 - But also remember to.....

Properly Maintain Smoke Alarms!



Make sure smoke alarms work.



- Test smoke alarms monthly.
- Replace the battery annually (most models).
- Replace all smoke alarms every ten years.

Refer to the owners manual for your Smoke Alarm for specific instructions.

Know what to do

- What do you do if your smoke alarm makes a loud noise?



Practice home escape plan



Pick a meeting place



Make a plan to wake up heavy sleepers



Alert people who are deaf or hard of hearing



For more information

- http://www.vafire.com/fire_safety_education/
- <http://vdfp.virginia.gov/#loaded>
- <http://www.dof.virginia.gov/fire/index.htm>
- <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/>
- <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information>
- http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/prev_ed/

Remember...



Fire is
Everyone's
Fight TM

Thank you!



Gloucester County Building Inspections
Department