



RUSSELLVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
POLICY MANUAL

Policy Number:
Section:
Original Date:
Revised Date:

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline a procedure and provide information to Department members regarding residential smoke alarm installation.

POLICY

When at a private residence and in appropriate situations, Department members should check the working condition of all smoke alarms. If a smoke alarm is present and is not functioning, the battery should be replaced from supplies kept on the apparatus.

Batteries can be provided and installed in any residence without restrictions. If the smoke alarm does not function, after replacing the battery, the resident should be advised to replace the unit.

A smoke alarm can be provided and installed in an owner occupied home, in which the homeowner is a senior citizen, disabled or living on a low income. Smoke alarm installation and maintenance in a rental occupancy is the responsibility of the property owner/landlord, however, there may be instances in which the fire officer recognizes the critical need (small children) to install a smoke alarm in a rental.

When Department personnel install a smoke alarm, the Release of Liability must be completed, with the signatures of both the homeowner and the member making the installation. Company Officers are responsible for ensuring that the release form is completed and returned to the Fire, Building & Safety Division.

Each apparatus should have an inventory of two smoke alarms and two additional batteries.

Inventory restock shall be requested through the Fire, Building & Safety Division.

The Fire, Building & Safety Division will coordinate referrals and direct calls from citizens requesting smoke alarm installations.

Smoke alarms shall not be given away.

While smoke alarm saturation in an individual home may not be feasible, even a single smoke alarm installation should be in accordance to NFPA 72 and the manufacturer's instructions. When selecting a location follow these NFPA guidelines:

Approved

Fire Chief

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1. In all sleeping rooms and guest rooms.
2. Outside of each separate dwelling unit sleeping area, within 21 ft. of any door to a sleeping room, with the distance measured along a path of travel.
3. On every level of a dwelling unit, including basements.
4. In the living area(s) of a guest suite.
5. If a room has a pitched (slanted) ceiling, mount the unit near the ceiling's highest point, 4 to 12 inches away from the wall. If the room has an A-frame ceiling, mount the unit at least 4 to 12 inches away from the peak
6. Wall-mounted smoke alarms should be installed so that the top of the alarm is not more than 12 inches from the ceiling
7. Avoid placing alarms near a cooking appliance, a dusty area, a shower, or any area where the temperature drops below 40°F or rises above 110°F.

Approved

Fire Chief

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