Approximately two-thirds of home fire deaths occur in homes without working smoke alarms. Since most fatal fires occur at night, it’s essential that every home has working smoke alarms to provide an early warning. The risk of dying in a home structure fire is 55 percent lower in homes with working smoke alarms than those with no or faulty alarms."

**SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES**

- Did you know...
  Working smoke alarms increase the chance of surviving a home fire by 50 percent.

- There are two kinds of alarms. Ionization smoke alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires. It is best to use both types of alarms in the home. Today’s smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions, yet mitigate false alarms.

- Vacuum your alarm at least once a year. Dust and cobwebs can impair sensitivity. Never paint over a smoke alarm.

- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10-years old.

- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.

- Remember, every day a smoke alarm saves somebody’s life!

**INDOOR FIRE SAFETY**

California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection

WWW.FIRE.CA.GOV/PROGRAMS/COMMUNICATIONS/
WWW.FIRE.CA.GOV

**WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF THE SMOKE ALARM GOES OFF?**

Crawl low to the ground under the smoke and exit your home quickly. Don’t try to take anything with you; just get out. Once safely outside, go to your family meeting place to ensure that everyone got out safely. Once you’re out, stay out!

Make sure to prepare and practice an escape plan including a family meeting place. Just like schools practice fire drills, families should also practice what to do if their smoke alarms go off.