

# Kildare Fire Service

## Fire Safety Information



### SMOKE DETECTORS

#### **Smoke Alarms:**

While Statistics show that most fires occur at night, the Majority of Fire related deaths in Ireland are caused by smoke. Not heat exposure or fire itself, but smoke. Toxic fumes that emanate from burning furniture can kill very quickly.

Many people think that if a fire occurs and fills the room with smoke it will wake them up.... **IT WON' T.**

What it will do is in fact put you into a deeper sleep.

Having a working smoke alarm installed in your home will act as an early warning device and provide you with vital time to Act, Alert and Get Out. However, a smoke alarm is only of use to you and your family if it works! Most smoke alarms are battery operated and while some may advertise 'Long Life' battery operated, it is essential AND advisable to carry out regular checks on the device.

#### **Testing Smoke Alarms:**

Most Smoke Alarms have built-in Test Buttons that allow you to carry out Tests at random. It is vital that all householders are familiar with the (i) the sound of the smoke alarm, (ii) action to be taken on hearing the alarm.

Should the alarm not sound when test button is pressed, check that the battery is fitted correctly, if it still does not work refer to the instructions manual. In the event that the alarm still won't sound it would be advisable to purchase a new device.

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All Alarms May **NOT ALWAYS** Be False Alarms:

As expected, the smoke alarm is sensitive to smoke and such fumes. If the device is located close to the kitchen area, a smoking oven, cooking fumes etc may very easily trigger the alarm. This may be accidental.

It may not **ALWAYS** be accidental. Never assume it is a False Alarm. Always check the house until satisfied otherwise. It Could Save Your Life!



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