

Media Advisory – Oct. 28, 2008

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Change smoke alarm batteries, clocks this weekend

The Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office is reminding residents to change the batteries in their fire detectors and smoke alarms when they change their clocks this weekend.

Sunday, Nov. 2, marks the end of Daylight Savings Time, and the semi-annual changing of the clocks is a good time to replace batteries in fire detectors and smoke alarms. An early warning can provide critical extra seconds to escape. Smoke alarms double your family's chance of getting out of a home fire alive — but only if they work.

Eighty-three percent of all civilian fire-related deaths nationwide are the result of home fires, and on average, nearly three children a day die in these fires.

To save lives and prevent needless injuries, Snohomish County has joined forces with Energizer and the International Association of Fire Chiefs for the 21st year of the ***Change Your Clock Change Your Battery***® campaign. The program urges all Americans to adopt a simple, lifesaving habit: changing smoke alarm and carbon-monoxide detector batteries when changing clocks back to standard time each fall.

The Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office encourages every resident to:

- test their smoke alarms to ensure that they are in proper working order.
- take the time to develop a residential escape plan in case of emergency. Having an escape plan will provide the proper life-saving steps during an emergency.

More information regarding these life safety tips can be found at www.snoco.org and typing "fire marshal" into the search box. Or call the Fire Marshal's Office at 425-388-3557.

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