

Families Receive Better Protection from Fire and Carbon Monoxide

Roughly 500 Edmonton families are now better protected against fires and carbon monoxide poisoning thanks to Edmonton Fire Rescue's Smoke Alarm Program.

The 2013 Smoke Alarm program wrapped up September 8, 2013 with firefighters installing combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms at some of the city's communities with older mobile homes, also called manufactured homes. Previously, the program installed smoke alarms in Edmonton's older neighbourhoods in the northeast. This was the first year the combination alarms were distributed.

"Every year in Canada, hundreds of lives are lost in house fires as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning," said Deputy Chief of Public Safety Russell Croome. "Having a working alarm on every level of your home and outside of all sleeping areas is a family's first line of defence in an emergency."

Combination alarms have only recently been developed to help protect residents against both smoke and carbon monoxide poisoning. Manufactured homes can be at a greater risk for carbon monoxide because of their enclosed spaces and location of furnaces. However, Fire Rescue recommends all Edmontonians consider installing carbon monoxide alarms.

"Carbon monoxide is very difficult to detect because it is colourless, odourless and tasteless, which is why it is called the 'silent killer,'" said Croome. "As we move towards the winter months and furnaces, fireplaces, and space-heaters are used, the prevalence of poisoning increases and Edmontonians need to protect themselves."

All types of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms should be tested monthly and the batteries replaced on an annual basis. Alarms older than 10 years should be replaced.

The Smoke Alarm Program is a partnership between Edmonton Fire Rescue and the Edmonton Firefighters Union, and is also made possible by the corporate support of Interstate Batteries. In the past three years, more than 2,000 alarms have been installed in Edmonton homes.

For additional information, contact:

Michael Tucker
Public Information Officer
Corporate Communications
780-496-3600

Share:     

3rd Floor, City Hall
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square NW
Edmonton, AB
T5J 2R7
www.edmonton.ca

[Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Printer Friendly Version](#)

This email was created and delivered through [Mailout](#)