



Township of Guelph/Eramosa Fire Department

- Mailing Address, Box 700, Rockwood, ON N0B 2K0
- Courier Address, 8348 Wellington Road 124
- Rockwood Station, 5141 Wellington County Road 27, Rockwood

September 23, 2009

Fire Department Checking for Working Smoke Alarms

During the month of October, the Guelph/Eramosa Fire Department will be conducting a door-to-door check of smoke alarms in Rockwood.

As the result of an amendment to the Fire Code that came into effect on March 1, 2006, every home in Ontario is now required to have a working smoke alarm on each storey, as well as outside all sleeping areas.

Fire department representatives will be checking to ensure that all residences in Rockwood have the required number of smoke alarms and that they are in working order. The owners of residences that are not in compliance with the Fire Code requirements will be asked to purchase and install additional smoke alarms and/or batteries. Failure to comply with the Fire Code requirements could result in a ticket or a fine.

“We certainly don’t want or expect to be handing out tickets as a result of this program,” said Fire Chief Lyle Quan. “The Guelph/Eramosa Fire Department will work with homeowners to make sure they have the correct number and type of smoke alarms for their home and that they are all working. However,” continued Chief Quan, “We do have the power to prosecute, if people refuse to comply with the law. We know that smoke alarms save lives and we will do whatever is necessary to make sure everyone is adequately protected.”

Failure to comply with the smoke alarm requirements of the Fire Code could result in a ticket for \$235 or a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for corporations.

For information contact: The Guelph/Eramosa Township Office at
519-856-9596 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Every home in Ontario must have a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas.

IT'S THE LAW.

Homeowners

It is the responsibility of homeowners to install and maintain smoke alarms on every storey of their home and outside sleeping areas.

Landlords

It is the responsibility of landlords to ensure their rental properties comply with the law.

Tenants

If you are a tenant of a rental property and do not have the required number of smoke alarms, contact your landlord immediately. It is against the law for tenants to remove the batteries or tamper with the alarm in any way.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE FIRE CODE SMOKE ALARM REQUIREMENTS COULD RESULT IN A TICKET FOR \$235 OR A FINE OF UP TO \$50,000 FOR INDIVIDUALS OR \$100,000 FOR CORPORATIONS.

When installing smoke alarms, refer to the manufacturer's instructions for information about correct placement.

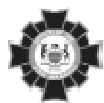
Test your smoke alarms every month using the test button.

Replace smoke alarm batteries at least once a year, and whenever the low-battery warning chirps.

Smoke alarms don't last forever. Replace smoke alarms with new ones if they are more than ten years old.

Steam from the shower or cooking in the oven, stove or toaster can cause smoke alarms to activate. **DO NOT REMOVE THE BATTERY.** Instead, try moving the alarm to a different location, or purchase a smoke alarm with a hush feature that will temporarily silence the alarm. For further information about dealing with nuisance alarms, visit the OFM website: www.ofm.gov.on.ca

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SMOKE ALARMS, CONTACT YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT



Office of the
Fire Marshal 2006
www.ofm.gov.on.ca

