Smoke Alarms For Everyone

American Red Cross
Hawaii State Chapter

Sponsored by:

IONIZATION
Smoke Alarm
by Kidde
Message from the Fire Chief

On behalf of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD), thank you for allowing us into your home to install a smoke alarm and review your fire escape plan. A smoke alarm can provide early detection of a fire and could mean the difference between life and death. A fire escape plan will help your family exit safely and account for one another.

I would like to extend a special thanks to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 1186 for helping the HFD install the smoke alarms. The volunteer assistance provided by their members is vital to the success of this program.

Through this community effort, the HFD can provide an effective fire safety education program that will ensure the proper placement and quantity of smoke alarms in Oahu homes.

Our homes are our castles, and our families are our precious treasure. Thank you for helping us protect what is important to us all.

Aloha,

Manuel P. Neves
Fire Chief
The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 1186 and the Honolulu Fire Department are teaming up to install smoke alarms in your area. As an organization that provides training through our apprenticeship program and ensures that a well-qualified, licensed journeyperson graduates, we are proud that we can share our electrical expertise in making your installation a safe one.

Mahalo,

Damien T.K. Kim
Business Manager/Financial Secretary
When a home fire or other disaster occurs, the American Red Cross assists by providing food, clothing, shelter, and crisis counseling to those affected. Across the nation, the American Red Cross responds to approximately 70,000 disasters each year (about 1 every 8 minutes!). In Hawaii, we respond to disasters every four days. More than 90% of these disasters are fire-related.

Home fires all too often end in tragedy. The American Red Cross home fire prevention campaign aims to reduce the number of fire deaths and injuries in the U.S. by 25% within 5 years by increasing the use of smoke alarms in neighborhoods with high numbers of home fires. Smoke alarms cut the risk of death from a fire in half, and that’s why we are working with our local fire departments and community groups in some of the most fire-affected neighborhoods.

A part of the American Red Cross’ mission is to prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies and it is our goal to educate the community and provide vital information on fire safety and the importance of maintaining working smoke alarms. Every household can take two simple steps that can help save lives: check their existing smoke alarms and practice fire drills at home.

Thank you for taking the time to initiate these lifesaving steps and for allowing us into your home to help you and your family prepare for fire disasters.

Mahalo,

Coralie Chun Matayoshi
Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii State Chapter, American Red Cross
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SMOKE ALARMS

Why We Need Them

Having a working smoke alarm in your home will increase your chances of survival from a fire by more than 50%.

Sixty-seven percent of Oahu homes where fires resulted in a death did not have working smoke alarms.

Fire can engulf a home in a matter of minutes. Early detection and warning of a fire from a smoke alarm can save your life.
What Type of Smoke Alarm Are You Receiving?

There are many different types of smoke alarms. You are receiving a ten-year, tamper-proof, ionizing smoke alarm manufactured by Kidde®.

Your Smoke Alarm Features

Sealed-in Lithium Power Supply: No battery replacement required over the ten-year life of the alarm

Ionization Sensing: Detects invisible fire particles from flaming combustion.

Alarm automatically activates when attached to the mounting bracket

Eco-Friendly: Completely recyclable as an electronic device
Maintenance Reminders

- Monthly testing of your smoke alarm will ensure it is working efficiently and familiarize household members with the sound.

- Clean your smoke alarm regularly with a brush or vacuum to eliminate dust, debris, and insects that can cause false alarms.

If you have other smoke alarms, change the 9-volt batteries every year.

Replace smoke alarms every ten years or sooner if they do not respond properly.
PLAN AND PRACTICE YOUR ESCAPE

Planning and practicing your escape routes may save your life. You should have two ways out of each room. Remember, a fire can block your main exit and you may need to use another route.

Mapping your plan can help you visualize your escape routes. Draw a diagram of your home’s floor plan showing exits from each room.

Choosing a meeting place outside your home will help you account for household members.
Sample Escape Plan

What would your escape plan look like?

Draw your plan on the next page.
My Plan

My meeting place outside is ______________________.

location
IN CASE OF FIRE

Awaking to a Fire

If you awake to a fire and smoke is in the room:

1. Roll out of bed and go onto the floor.

2. Stay low and crawl to the door. Smoke fills a room from the ceiling down.

3. Test the door with the back of your hand.

4. If the door is hot, go to another exit.

5. If the door is cool, open it slowly and go to your meeting place outside the home.

6. Use your neighbor’s phone and DIAL 911.

7. GET OUT--STAY OUT! Do not go back into your home.
High-Rise Buildings

Follow the “in case of fire” rules and the following:

1. Close the door behind you. Do not forget your keys.
2. Do not use the elevator! Elevators may take you to the fire floor or stop working, thus trapping you inside.
3. Use the stairs to exit your floor.

If you are trapped inside, you must

“SHELTER IN PLACE”

1. Close the doors between you and the fire.
2. To keep smoke out, use towels, sheets, or clothing to seal gaps and vents where smoke can enter.
3. CALL 911.
4. If you are unable to reach a phone, signal for help with a sheet or flashlight.
5. Put a wet cloth over your nose and wait at a window.
FIRE SAFETY IN YOUR HOME

Cooking

DO NOT leave cooking unattended. Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and the second most frequent cause of death among the elderly.

☐ Have an ABC-rated fire extinguisher near the kitchen, and learn how to use it.

☐ Turn off the heat if you must leave the stove, even if only for a few minutes.

☐ Never wear long, loose-sleeved clothing while cooking.

☐ Turn handles on pots and pans toward the center of the stove to prevent accidents.

☐ Put a lid on a pot or pan to smother a grease fire.

☐ NEVER THROW WATER OR FLOUR INTO A BURNING POT OR PAN! Water will spread the flames, and flour could explode.

☐ Never carry a burning pan. Severe burning can occur, and fire can spread throughout your home.

☐ For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

If your clothes catch on fire... STOP, DROP, and ROLL.
Electrical

Electrical Cords

- Discard frayed or cracked cords.
- Do not run cords under carpeting or furniture.
- Do not overload extension cords.
- Do not use extension cords as permanent wiring.
- Do not yank on cords. Unplug them from the outlet.

Electrical Appliances

- Plug heat-generating devices directly into wall outlets.
- Unplug portable appliances when not in use.
- Replace or repair appliances that do not operate properly.
- Use appliances that are approved by Underwriters Laboratory Inc.®

Light Bulbs

- Use the correct bulb wattage recommended by the manufacture.
- If you are not sure, use a 60-watt bulb. High-wattage bulbs may overheat and cause fires.
Candles

Never leave a burning candle unattended.
Extinguish candles before going to sleep or leaving a room.
Use a stable, nonflammable candle holder with a hurricane glass to protect the open flame.
Keep candles three feet away from anything that can burn.
Keep matches and lighters in a safe, secured place away from children.

Housekeeping

Keep your home clean and clear of clutter.
Do not block exit ways. Make sure you are able to escape quickly and safely.

The more things you have, the more fuel a fire has to burn.
Fall Prevention

8 STEPS TO PREVENTING FALLS

1. EXERCISE REGULARLY
   - Builds strength, coordination, and balance
   - Consult your physician

2. TAKE YOUR TIME
   - Get out of chairs and beds slowly
   - Stand and gain your balance before walking
   - Be aware of your surroundings

3. KEEP WALKING AREAS AND STAIRS CLEAR
   - Eliminate tripping hazards
     ◦ electrical cords
     ◦ shoes
     ◦ clothes
     ◦ books
     ◦ other clutter
4. IMPROVE LIGHTING

⇒ Inside and outside of your home
   ◊ use night lights to illuminate pathways
   ◊ illuminate stairways before use

5. USE NONSLIP MATS

⇒ Inside bathtub
⇒ On shower floor
⇒ Install grab bars
   ◊ on walls in tub and shower
   ◊ next to toilet

6. BEWARE OF UNEVEN SURFACES

⇒ On sidewalks and pavement
⇒ Use nonskid backing on rugs
⇒ Smooth out carpeting
   ◊ eliminate folds and wrinkles
7. ILLUMINATE STAIRS

- From top to bottom
- Install easy-to-grip handrails
  - along full length of stairs
  - on both sides

8. WEAR STURDY SHOES THAT FIT

- Low-heeled shoes
- Nonslip soles
- These types of shoes are safest
REMEMBER:
* Test your smoke alarm every month.
* Clean your smoke alarm regularly.
* Consult the user guide.

Notes: ____________________________

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