



**CITY OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK  
FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
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## PRESS RELEASE

As the signs of spring are nearing with the change in our clocks this weekend, let us not forget the recent loss of life in our community and make sure that we change the batteries and test our smoke detectors. For those who have the newer smoke detectors with the ten year battery, please test your smoke detector this weekend.

A working smoke detector is the single most important safety factor we can have in our homes. These devices never sleep and are intended to alert occupants of any smoke like substance that is in the air of the home. National statistics show that having a working smoke detector increases your chance of surviving in a residential fire by 50 %. Please take the time to ensure that your home is protected.

The American Red Cross has a free smoke detector program and can schedule an installation appointment to come to your home and also provide some fire safety tips for you and your family.

The Watertown Firefighters Benevolent Association is sponsoring a benefit hockey on March 16 at the Watertown Ice Arena. They will be giving away free smoke detectors to attendees at the conclusion of the feature game between our own Watertown Firefighters vs the Auburn Firefighters. Any remaining smoke detectors will be available at the Massey Street Fire Station on March 18.

Best practices recommend a smoke detector in every bedroom, outside of sleeping areas and one on each level of the home. Testing smoke detectors monthly is also recommended to ensure that they are functioning.

CITY OF WATERTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dale C. Herman".

Dale C. Herman  
Fire Chief, EFO

# Hear the **BEEP** where you **SLEEP**

## Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!

Half of home fire deaths happen between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when most people are asleep.



Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms.

For the best protection, install interconnected smoke alarms in your home. When one sounds, they all sound.



Test alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.



Some people, especially children and older adults, may need help to wake up. Make sure someone will wake them if the smoke alarm sounds.



Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or if they do not sound when tested.



When the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Go to your outside meeting place.



Call the fire department from a cellphone or a neighbor's phone. Stay outside until the fire department says it's safe to go back inside.

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