

Smoke Detectors

Fire Has Four Stages:

1. **Beginning Stage:** During this stage, the fire gives off invisible particles that can be detected by a smoke detector which will set off an alarm.
2. **Smoke Stage:** The fire is now smoldering!
3. **Flame Stage:** Property damage can occur now!
4. **High Heat Stage:** The fire is now burning out of control.

Facts:

1. Most of the fatal home fires have started between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. the time when the average family is asleep.
2. 9 out of 10 people killed in building fires die at home.
3. During a fire, flames are last on the list of killers. Most people die from lack of oxygen, gases, hot air, and smoke before they can awaken.
4. Your best defense is the automatic early fire detector which can warn you to take action before the fire reaches stage 2.

Property Losses in One Year (national average in 1980):

\$7,986,000,000

Number of Fires	
1. Residential	797,000
2. 1 and 2 dwelling	78,000
3. Storage Property	92,000
4. Stores and Offices	68,000
5. Public Assembly	33,000
6. Educational	18,000

All Fires Are Failures:

Not only does FIRE strike a home every minute around the clock, but every 80 minutes, one person loses his/her life in a home fire. This victim is usually a child or an elderly person.

Such facts serve to measure our failures in correcting fire hazards and our failures in preparing for fire emergencies.

Fires represent failures and your actions and attitude can help you and your family to remain safe from the tragic consequences of fire in the days ahead.

This manual was prepared for you by your Fire Department in an effort to avoid future losses by fire.