



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

**CHINO VALLEY INDEPENDENT FIRE DISTRICT**

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## **Change Your Clock, Change Your Batteries**

The Chino Valley Fire District encourages you to spring forward into action by changing the batteries in your smoke alarms when you change your clocks on Sunday, March 14, 2021, for Daylight Savings. In addition to changing your batteries, take additional actions by testing your smoke alarms to ensure all are working properly, practice your home escape plan as a family, and remember to close the door before you doze. Working smoke alarms play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries. Planning and practicing your home escape plan as a family ensures everyone knows what to do during a fire. Finally, be sure to close the doors to all bedrooms before going to bed. A closed door will slow the spread of fire.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, an estimated two-thirds of home fire deaths occur in homes with no smoke alarms or in homes with smoke alarms that failed to operate properly. The NFPA reported that dead or missing batteries are the most common reasons for smoke alarms to fail.

The Chino Valley Fire District offers the following tips to help keep your smoke alarms in good working order:

- Test smoke alarms once a month by pushing the test button
- Replace batteries in smoke alarms at least twice a year
- Replace your smoke alarms every ten years, or in accordance with manufacturer guidelines
- Do not disable smoke alarms, even temporarily
- Vacuum regularly and/or dust your smoke alarms to keep them working properly
- Consider installing a 10-year lithium battery-operated smoke alarm
- Develop and practice a family escape plan so that everyone in your home knows what to do if the smoke alarm rings

To learn more about fire and life safety, visit our website at [www.chinovalleyfire.org](http://www.chinovalleyfire.org) or follow us on social media @cvifd.

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