



Fairview Fire District
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE FAIRVIEW FIRE DISTRICT WORKING TO PROTECT THE ELDERLY

Fairview and the NYS Association of Fire Chief's to Install Smoke Detectors in District

Did you know fires are burning hotter and faster? The National Fire Data Center's research group reports that the time to escape an established fire in a home has reduced 82% in the last 30 years to less than 3 minutes. Are you or your older family members prepared?

The United States Fire Administration is reporting that since the year 2000, between three and four thousand civilians die in residential building fires annually. With this evidence it is apparent that there is still much more that can be done to protect our families and ourselves. Justin Bohlmann, the Public Education Coordinator for the Fairview Fire District relates, "The very first and easiest step to protect ourselves is to install and maintain smoke detectors in our homes."

Beginning on Monday January 5th 2014, the Fairview Fire District in conjunction with the New York State Association of Fire Chief's will begin an Older Adult Fire Safety Project that will focus on inspection and installation of smoke detectors in homes within the district that are owned by residents 65 years of age or older. If you or someone you know falls under these conditions, please contact Justin Bohlmann at 845.452.8770. You will be requested to leave a voicemail and leave your name, address and a call back number so that an appointment for inspection and/or installation can be made. A return call for scheduling will be made within 72 hours. The Older Adult Fire Safety Program in Fairview will last until 02/28/14.

During our visit, our firefighters will remind residents that there are some simple tips that can be followed in your home that could save your life. "Most importantly, making sure that once the detectors are installed, they are tested monthly for function. Furthermore you should never take a battery out of a smoke detector unless you are putting a new one in," Bohlmann says. "Also, ensuring that you have an evacuation plan for your home with two ways out of every room can save lives."

The fire district would like to remind its residents that no matter what age you may be, smoke detectors will increase your chance of survival. Finally, always remember to make a plan, practice the plan and always have two ways out.

Founded in 1910, The Fairview Fire District is located in Dutchess County, New York. We protect the Northern part of the Town of Poughkeepsie and the Southern part of the Town of Hyde Park. The district is four and a half square miles large. There are homes, businesses, colleges, schools, health care facilities and more in the district. Public protection is provided by a combination career and volunteer staff 24/7/365.

If you would like more information on this topic, have questions, or would like to set up an interview with Justin Bohlmann, please contact Chief Christopher Maeder at 845.452.7453 or at cmaeder@fairviewfd.net.