



Life-saver...

Only if it works

Did you know, in South Carolina

### Is it working?

Check the year printed on the back of your smoke alarm. If it is older than 2004 or does not have a manufacturer's date present, replace your alarm. Smoke alarms lose their ability to detect smoke after 10 years.

Test your smoke alarm once a month.

If your smoke alarm does not have a tamper resistant 10 year battery, change your batteries twice a year.

55

citizens have died due to fire as of January 1 to October 23, 2014.

15

of those citizens were over the age of 65.

Right  
Alarm

Right  
Location

Right  
Action

**Right Alarm.** Know your options while choosing a smoke alarm. Ionization alarms are generally more responsive to flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are better for smoldering fires and are better in the kitchen.

*Tip:* Purchase 10-year battery alarms to make maintaining your alarm easier.

**Right Location.** Place your smoke alarm in the correct location for optimal protection. You should have an alarm on every floor, inside every bedroom, and outside the bedroom area.

*Tip:* Avoid placing ionization alarms in the kitchen as they cause nuisance alarms.

Also, don't install them in corners and dusty areas.

**Right Action.** Plan and practice your escape plan. Residents should know two ways out of every bedroom.

*Tip:* Closing doors helps slow down the spread of fire.



This public service announcement is brought to you by the South Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal.