



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
For Further Information Contact:

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Beloit Fire Department (608) 364-2900

Beloit, WI – This weekend marks our “Spring Forward” to Daylight Savings time on Sunday, March 9th at 2:00 a.m. Americans throughout the country will be setting our clocks ahead one hour as we get ready to welcome Spring weather!

Fire Chief Bradley Liggett wants to remind citizens to also use this date to change the batteries in their home smoke detectors. Properly installed and maintained smoke detectors will alert you and your family to a fire in your home 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A properly installed and maintained smoke detector is your “first line of defense” should a fire emergency occur in your home or place of employment. A smoke detector remains constantly on alert for fire or smoke in your home, whether you are asleep or sitting in your lounge watching your favorite television program.

The National Fire Protection Association states that nearly two-thirds of home fire deaths are a result of homes not having properly functioning smoke detectors. A properly functioning smoke detector will alert you and your family that there is something wrong going on in your home and allow you to escape the area to a place of safety and save the life of you or a loved one.

Chief Liggett recommends the following safety precautions be taken:

- Install smoke detectors on every level of your home and inside every sleeping area.
- Install smoke detectors at least 12” from the ceiling
- Replace the batteries if the detector is “chirping” – it is letting you know the battery is no longer viable and needs replacement
- Test and clean your smoke detectors on the first day of EVERY month.
- Sweep or dust off your smoke detector as too much dust accumulation will not allow the detector to function properly
- Replace smoke detector batteries at least once, preferably twice, a year
- Never disable a smoke detector.