

Monday, March 15, 2021
PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT



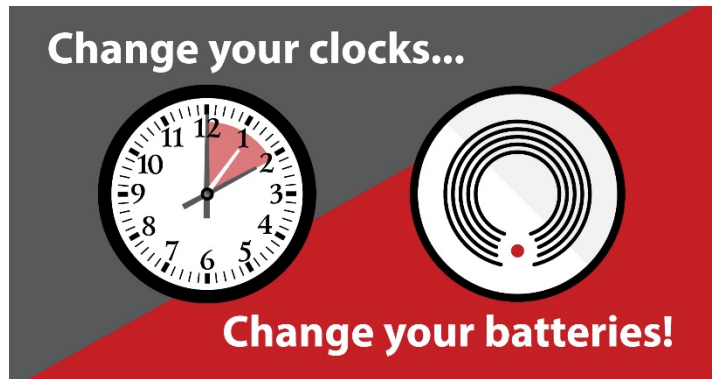
TIME TO CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES IN ALL SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

Welland, ON - As we Spring forward and continue to change all the forgotten clocks, Welland Fire and Emergency Services is recommending residents install new batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Changing the batteries on smoke and carbon monoxide alarms should take place on an annual basis. "In order for smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to do their job, they need to have working batteries," explained Fire Chief Adam Eckhart. "Once a year, old batteries should be replaced with new batteries. Welland Fire and Emergency Services wants everyone to take the time to install new batteries in all alarms."

In order to survive a fire, you need to be provided with an early warning and know what to do when the smoke alarms sound. Working smoke alarms are required on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas. For added protection, it is recommended to also install smoke alarms inside all bedrooms.

Carbon monoxide alarms must be installed outside all sleeping areas if your home has a fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage.

Tampering with or removing the batteries from your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms is against the law. Failure to comply with the Fire Code can result in a ticket for \$360 or prosecution resulting in a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals (first offence) or \$500,000 for corporations (first offence).



-30-

Contact:
Adam Eckhart,
Fire Chief & Community Emergency Management Coordinator
905-735-1700 Ext. 2400
adam.eckhart@welland.ca