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Village of Mount Prospect Fire Department

111 E. Rand Road, Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056

NEWS RELEASE

Release Date: IMMEDIATE

Contact: JOHN DOLAN, FIRE CHIEF, 847/870-5660

Subject: Updated Illinois Smoke Alarm Law

Effective January 1, 2023, a new Illinois law went into effect that requires any new smoke alarms installed in a single or multi-family home to have a 10-year sealed battery. Battery powered smoke alarms currently existing in homes may remain in place after January 1, 2023, until they exceed 10 years from their manufactured date, or they fail to respond to operability tests or malfunction in any way. When these units expire or fail, a replacement unit must have a 10-year sealed battery. This applies to residents that are still using alarms with removable batteries or alarms that are not hardwired.

Assistant Fire Chief Bryan Loomis wants to stress to residents, "The fire department strongly recommends using the 10-year life sealed battery smoke alarms; however, as long as your current 9-volt battery powered smoke alarms are working, and are less than 10 years old, there is no need to replace them this January. When these units fail or have reached a life of 10 years old or more, the new law requires them to be replaced with a 10-year sealed battery unit."

The 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms can be purchased at most local hardware and home improvement stores.

There are a few exceptions to this law, which include: homes that were built after 1988 that already have hardwired smoke alarms, in addition to homes with wireless integrated alarms that use low-power radio frequency communications, Wi-Fi, or other Wireless Local Area Networking capability.

For more information, or if you have questions, please call Fire Prevention Bureau at 847-818-5253. To view the new law in its entirety, please visit www.IFSA.org/smoke-alarm-law.

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