



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 3, 2014



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**Irving Fire Department Reminds Irving Residents:
Working Smoke Alarms Saves Lives!**

(IRVING, TEXAS) — Working smoke alarms can make a life-saving difference in a fire. That’s the message behind this year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign, “Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!”

Along with firefighters and safety advocates nationwide, Irving Fire Department is joining forces with the nonprofit [National Fire Protection Association](#) (NFPA) during Fire Prevention Week, October 5-11, to remind local residents about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home and testing them monthly.

According to the latest NFPA research, working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire in half. Meanwhile, almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

“In a fire, seconds count,” said Rusty Wilson, assistant fire chief. “Roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when most people are asleep. Home smoke alarms can alert people to a fire before it spreads, giving everyone enough time to get out.”

This year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign includes the following smoke alarm messages:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. This way, when one sounds, they all do.
- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don’t respond properly.

- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm and understands what to do when they hear it.

To learn more about smoke alarms and “Working Smoke Alarms Saves Lives”, visit NFPA’s Web site at firepreventionweek.org.

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About the [City of Irving](#):

Irving is the second city in the nation and the first in the State of Texas to receive the [Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award](#) (2012) as well as the first municipality in Texas’ history to receive the [Texas Award for Performance Excellence](#) (2011). Irving is the 13th largest city in the state with 227,000 residents and is home to the largest office park in North Texas, where more than 10 percent of Fortune 500 companies are headquartered or have a significant presence.