



## Jackson County Department of Public Health

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### SAFE KIDS JACKSON COUNTY URGES RESIDENTS TO “CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES”

“Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries” is a long-standing campaign to encourage the public to change their smoke alarm batteries when turning clocks ahead in the spring or back in the fall. On March 12, states throughout the U.S. will turn their clocks forward for Daylight Savings Time. Safe Kids Jackson County urges all residents to use this opportunity to test your home’s smoke alarm batteries as well.

Working smoke alarms are a critical element of home fire safety. Today, smoke alarms are not all designed the same, make battery messaging more nuanced. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) shares the following information to help make sure all smoke alarms have working batteries.

- Smoke alarms with non-replaceable 10-year batteries are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years. If the alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the entire smoke alarm right away.
- Smoke alarms with any other type of battery need a new battery at least once a year. If that alarm chirps, warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away.
- When replacing a battery, follow manufacturer’s list of batteries on the back of the alarm or manufacturer’s instructions. Manufacturer’s instructions are specific to the batteries (brand and model) that must be used. The smoke alarm may not work properly if a different kind of battery is used.

As you Spring forward on March 12, test your smoke alarm’s batteries and change replaceable batteries as needed.

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