



Hartsville Fire Department

Bryan Crowley, Fire Marshal
bryan.crowley@hartsvillesc.gov
(843) 383-3000

For Immediate Release – June 23, 2014

Hartsville Fire Department to host Smoke Alarm Blitz

Hartsville, S.C. – The Hartsville Fire Department, along with the South Carolina State Fire Marshal’s Office, announce a community outreach partnership program Saturday, June 28 to check smoke alarms and, if necessary, install free replacements in homes along south Hartsville neighborhoods near Eighth Street and Marlboro Avenue, beginning at 9 a.m.

The “Right Alarm. Right Location. Right Action.” campaign includes the installation of 10-year lithium battery smoke alarms, helping residents with a fire escape plan and providing additional fire safety information. This effort is made possible through a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant. Hartsville became one of seven communities in South Carolina to be chosen for the program.

Before the event, firefighters will knock on doors in the target area and leave door hangers to inform residents they will return to check homes and install alarms. Residents who are not home on the day of the blitz may call the number on the door hanger to schedule a check of their alarms.

“The goal of this outreach program is to save lives,” Fire Chief Jeff Burr said. “We’re asking residents to please check their smoke alarms to make sure they’re working, and if they have one more than 10 years old, to replace it. The chirp you hear while testing the alarm means the battery works. However, it doesn’t necessarily mean the sensor inside the alarm is still working after 10 years.”

The State Fire Marshal’s Office of Community Risk Reduction division and the Hartsville Fire Department will be going door-to-door throughout the neighborhood. Participants will be wearing safety vests and will post signage throughout the neighborhood with fire safety messages.

“We are so happy to be in Hartsville to support this important program,” State Fire Marshal Shane Ray said. “We applaud the Hartsville Fire Department for their proactive approach with outreach within the community. We look forward to meeting many citizens during this time.”

- more -

Since 2007, there have been 46 fires in the program's area of focus totaling \$250,000 in damage and loss, including two fire deaths. Since 2012, there have been 11 fire-related deaths in the City of Hartsville, including four children – the most of any municipality in South Carolina during that time.

###