

Serving the Cities of Kent, SeaTac, Covington, and King County Fire District 37

Professionally and Compassionately Helping People

Smoke Alarm Installation Program Working to make homes safer

Kent, Wash. - April 1, 2016- Home fires kill seven people every day in this country. Fire related injuries are reported every 40 minutes. Residential fires cause \$7 billion in property damage annually.

How can we reduce these dismal statistics? A new program by the Red Cross that the Kent RFA is participating in is working to decrease the deaths, injuries, and damage. Early warning is the key.

This early warning comes in the form of smoke alarms. Working smoke alarms can cut the chance of dying in a residential fire by half, and the Red Cross's nationwide campaign to reduce the number of home fire deaths and injuries by 25 percent over the next five years is a major step in making residents safer. This means 638 less deaths, 3,285 less injuries, and \$1.7 billion less in fire damage - every year.

In addition to installing new smoke alarms, the Red Cross is asking the public to take two additional steps: Check existing smoke alarms to ensure they are working and to plan/practice an in-home fire escape drill.

This Saturday, we will be working with the residents of the Kenton Firs and Clark Glen Mobile Home Parks. The Kent RFA and the Red Cross are concentrating on mobile home parks due to the increased danger that fires pose to the light-weight homes and their limited egress points. Notices of the free smoke alarm program have already been distributed to both neighborhoods.

The media is invited to accompany the installation crews this weekend. The teams will be made up of firefighters, Red Cross volunteers, and Zone 3 Fire Explorers.

Date: April 2, 2016
Time: 10:00 am (Installs begin at 11:00 am)
Location: Station 74 Training Center
24523 116 Ave. SE Kent, WA 98030

Please join us as we work to reduce fire risk in our community. For more information, please call 206-450-8400.

###

