

# City of Bristol Tennessee

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Change Your Clock Change Your Battery This Weekend

Daylight saving time ends Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, and marks the 26<sup>th</sup> year of the *Change Your Clock Change Your Battery*® program. The Change Your Clock Change Your Battery Program reminds us to change and test the batteries in our smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. The Bristol Fire Department reminds everyone that this one simple step can help save their lives and the lives of their loved ones. “Everyone is encouraged to use the extra hour they “gain” from daylight saving time to change the batteries in their own smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors, test the alarms and remind friends, family, neighbors and fellow community members to do the same,” said Jack Spurgeon, Asst. Fire Chief.

Communities nationwide witness tragic home fire deaths each year, but everyone can work together to help reduce the number of home fire fatalities. Non-working smoke alarms rob people of the protective benefits that home fire safety devices are designed to provide. The most commonly cited causes of non-working smoke alarms are dead or missing batteries.

“Eighty percent of child fire fatalities occur in homes without working smoke alarms. It’s a tragic statistic and that percentage and the number of fatalities can be reduced by adopting the simple safety practice encouraged through the *Change Your Clock Change Your Battery*® program,” says Fire Chief Bob Barnes.

Changing smoke alarm batteries at least twice a year, testing those alarms and reminding others to do the same are some of the simplest, most effective ways to reduce home fire deaths and injuries. Additionally, the Bristol Fire Department recommends that smoke alarms be replaced every 10 years.

“The peak time for home fire fatalities is between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most families are sleeping and it is imperative for the home to be equipped with properly working early warning devices, such as smoke detectors,” says Chief Barnes.

For more emergency safety information, call the Bristol TN Fire Department at (423) 989-5701.

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