



Paulding County Fire & Rescue Contact:

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Paulding County Fire & Rescue to Provide Citizens with Free Smoke Detectors

PCFD Teams Up for “Operation Save A Life”

Hiram, Georgia December 22, 2015 – Each year, three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke detectors or none that are working properly. In an effort to reduce deaths and injuries in fires, the Paulding County Fire Department, along with other Metro Atlanta Fire Departments, has teamed up with WSB TV, Kidde Fire Extinguishers, The Home Depot and Attorney Ken Nugent in a program known as “*Operation Save A Life*”.

“*Operation Save A Life*” equips Firefighters across Paulding County with a supply of free smoke detectors for families and residents who can’t afford them. Certified Firefighters from PCFD will be in the community installing the smoke detectors in homes for those in need. The free smoke detector installation program will help participating households greatly increase their odds of surviving in the event of a structure fire.

If you are a Paulding County homeowner, and want to take advantage of the program, the process is simple – **Schedule an installation appointment by calling 678-383-3418 or stop by PCFD’s Administrative offices during regular business hours at 535 Seaboard Avenue, Hiram, GA 30141.** All appointments for smoke detector installation must be done as noted above not at your local Fire Station.

“Our goal is to make sure every residence has working smoke detectors installed in their home and they are educated about the importance of maintaining these life-saving devices,” says Paulding County Fire Chief Joey Pelfrey.

Useful Tips & Information about Smoke Detectors and Fire Safety

- Test your smoke detector once a month by pushing the test button.
- If your smoke detector chirps, replace the battery.
- Schedule smoke detector battery replacement for the same day you change your clock from daylight saving time to standard time.
- Never “borrow” a battery from a smoke detector. Smoke detectors can’t warn you of fire if the batteries are missing or have been disconnected.
- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for cleaning to keep smoke detectors working well.
- Practice your home fire escape drill twice per year with everyone in your home. Practice at night and during the day.
- Once the detector alarms, you may have as little as two minutes to escape.
- Smoke detectors are the most effective early warning devices that allow residents to escape during a fire.
- According to the National Fire Protection Association, in 2009-2013, fires in homes with no smoke detectors caused an average of 940 deaths per year (38% of home fire deaths).
- An additional 510 people per year (21% of home fire deaths) were fatally injured in fires in which smoke detectors were present but failed to operate.
- The death rate per 100 reported fires was more than twice as high in homes with no or no working smoke detectors as it was in fires with working smoke detectors.