#### **How Are Inspections Scheduled?**

Smoke alarm inspections can be scheduled online at www.cathedralcityfire.org, or in person by visiting Cathedral City Fire Administration at 32100 Desert Vista Rd.

We will need to know if the smoke alarm is hooked up to an alarm system and if it is monitored by a commercial alarm company.

IF THE SMOKE ALARM IS LINKED TO AN ALARM SYSTEM THAT IS MONITORED, IT WILL BE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE THE SYSTEM IS TURNED OFF PRIOR TO THE INSPECTION TO AVOID THE POSSIBILITY OF A FALSE ALARM.

When working with a realtor, we ask that the realtor be present at the residence during the inspection. The inspector will be at the address promptly or a few minutes before the scheduled time. If no one appears for the appointment within 5-10 minutes after the scheduled time, we will consider this a "No Show" and the inspector will leave. In case of a "no-show," the inspection will need to be rescheduled for another date and time, and additional fees will be incurred.

#### What Is The Fee For Inspection?

The fee for an inspection is \$52.00 and is required to be paid by credit or debit card at the time of scheduling. The inspection fee applies to each unit of a multi-family dwelling.

The fee is applied per visit until the property is found to be in compliance.

### CATHEDRAL CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

32100 Desert Vista Rd. Cathedral City, CA 92234

Phone: 760-770-8200 Fax: 760-328-3902 E-mail: fireinfo@cathedralcity.gov www.cathedralcityfire.org



The Cathedral City Fire Department is Committed to Preserving Life, Environment, and Property Through Quality Emergency Response and Service.

Rev. 10/13/2015

What You Should Know Before You Sell, Refinance, or Transfer Title of a Home



# CATHEDRAL CITY SMOKE ALARM PROGRAM



## CATHEDRAL CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT Compassion • Honesty • Integrity • Professionalism

#### Why Are Inspections Needed?

In the event of a fire, a home without an operating smoke alarm is twice as likely to have a fire related death as a home that has a smoke alarm. Unfortunately, 25 percent of the nation's households do not have operational smoke alarms.

The Fire Department inspects residential smoke alarms (as well as window security bars) under City Ordinance 8.12 and an addendum 907.2.10 to Article 9 of the California Fire Code which states:

"Upon sale of any residential dwelling and factory-built housing, the seller shall have installed therein, permanently wired smoke alarms, or ten-year tamper-proof battery powered approved detectors of products of combustion, other than heat only, as required by the fire code. The smoke alarms are required to be [California] State Fire Marshal approved and listed. The seller must obtain certification from the Fire Department of the installation and proper operation prior to close of sale of property."

The Building Department inspects new construction of single family residences prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.

#### What Will The Inspector Look For?

WORKING PHOTOELECTRIC OR IONIZATION SMOKE ALARMS are required in the hallway leading to the bedroom(s) and one in each bedroom

 Structures that are built with pre-existing hard-wiring to the detectors throughout the home (hallways, bedrooms, etc.)

- require ALL detectors to be hard-wired photoelectric or ionization smoke alarms.
- Structures that are partially wired with preexisting hard-wired smoke alarms (hallways, bedrooms, etc.) are required to have hard-wired photoelectric or ionization smoke alarms installed. 10-year tamperproof battery powered photoelectric or ionization smoke alarms will be accepted in areas that are not hard-wired to meet the minimum standard (hallway & bedrooms)
- Structures built with no pre-existing hardwiring must install 10-year tamper-proof battery powered photoelectric or ionization smoke alarms to meet the minimum standard (hallways & bedrooms)

## BATTERY POWERED SMOKE ALARMS CANNOT BE PUT IN PLACE OF HARDWIRED SMOKE ALARMS

#### STREET ADDRESS:

The street address shall be displayed on the residence in a place and position as to be easily visible and legible from the street. All address numerals shall be of color contrasting to the color of the structure. An address that is illuminating (lighted) shall be in working condition.

#### **SECURITY BARS:**

Residences that have security bars on the bedroom windows shall have a release device (hand or foot release) that operates properly.

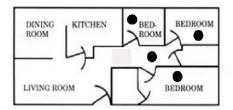
#### What If The Detectors Fail The Test?

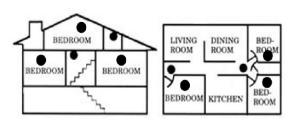
Should the smoke detectors fail for any reason, including improper installation, the corrections will need to be made and a new inspection scheduled through the fire department website.

A fee will be levied for each inspection and re-inspection. After the inspector completes the inspection, the approved smoke detector inspection form will be left with the person who meets the inspector at the property. It is up to that person to get the form to the escrow company so that escrow may close.

The completed smoke detector inspection is valid for 12 months from the date of the approved inspection. If the property is transferred within the 12 month time frame, another smoke detector inspection will not be required (with proof of prior inspection.

#### **Proper Placement of Smoke Alarms**





Have questions? Call us! We're here to help Monday through Thursday, 7AM to 6PM (760) 770-8200

