

# **SAFETY CORNER**

## **Public Safety Newsletter**

**TOPIC:**       **Change Your Clock – Change Your Battery**

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This is a Safety Corner Topic that can save lives in Mitchell and surrounding communities.

The simple yet powerful act of changing the batteries in smoke alarms when you change the clock back on November 2<sup>nd</sup> can double a family's chances of getting out of a home fire alive.

As a 29 year fire service veteran, I have witnessed first-hand the tragedy and devastation of home fires. It's even more heartbreaking when a young life is cut short. On average, nearly two children die each day in home fires. Overall, roughly 80 percent of home fire deaths in this country occur in homes without working smoke alarms.

Considering that residential fire deaths peak in winter months, it makes sense to change your smoke alarm batteries each and every fall.

Over the past 10 months in South Dakota we have lost 14 lives.

We hope you'll join us in the fight to protect your family, friends and neighbors with the "Change Your Clock Change Your Battery" campaign on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Sincerely,

Steve Willis  
Assistant Fire Chief

If you would like to learn about certain topics please email [cindy@mitchelldps.com](mailto:cindy@mitchelldps.com) and reference Safety Corner.

