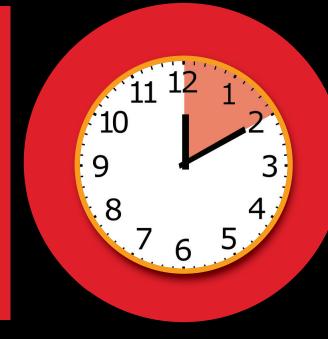
Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service is kicking off Fire Prevention Month and urging all residents to "Take 10" on October 10th to test smoke alarms, practice a home fire drill and update your Family Emergency Kit. A few minutes of planning can make all the difference in an emergency.



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## **Smoke Alarms EXPIRE!**

Like any electronic device, smoke alarms wear out over time and need to be replaced. The life expectancy of smoke

alarms is 10 years.

Smoke alarms work by sensing smoke particles and after 10 years, the smoke sensors lose their sensitivity. The test button only confirms that

the battery, electronics and alert system are working; not that the smoke sensor is working. Replace ALL smoke alarms older than 10 years.

## A Home Fire Drill **Can Save Your Life**

Less than a quarter of households surveyed have actually developed and practiced a home escape plan.

How prepared is your family? Map out a home escape plan complete with a meeting place.



## It's time to "Winterize" your Family Emergency Kit

It's important to keep enough supplies in your home to meet the needs of your family for at least three days.

Assemble a Family **Emergency Kit** with items you may need in an emergency. Store these supplies in



sturdy, easy-to-carry containers such as suitcases, duffle bags or covered storage containers.

To learn more or to schedule your FREE HOME SAFETY CHECK, call 311 or visit us at

mcfrs.org/mcsafe



