

Free of Charge Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarms for Qualifying Residents

Purpose:

To provide guidance on the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms for qualifying residents, as part of the Senior SAFE Grant Program.

General:

The fire department will install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms free of charge, to qualifying residents who live in owner-occupied 1 & 2 family homes. The purpose of the program is to ensure that Douglas residents, particularly those who are elderly, disabled, or on a fixed-income, have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in their homes. The program also accounts for maintenance of the alarms once installed (battery changes for alarms that have replaceable batteries). The program does not cover replacement of an entire house of alarms, or making a home compliant for a real estate sale. The intent of the program is to ensure protection on each level of the home, which typically will meet pre-1975 building code requirements.

Procedure:

- a. A resident must meet the following requirements to be referred to the program:
 - Over 65 years of age
 - Can be less than 65 years of age if disabled or mobility impaired
 - Own and occupy their home (1 & 2 family homes only)
- b. The resident requesting services will schedule a home safety visit with fire department administrative assistant, in conjunction with the department's fire and life safety educator (SAFE Coordinator). The home safety visits can be completed by either on-duty personnel or the SAFE Coordinator. All home safety visits should be placed on the inspection schedule.
- c. As budget and/or grant funding allows, residents will be limited to one combination alarm per habitable level of the residence, including the basement; AND one smoke alarm in their sleeping area (if applicable and based on the judgment of the fire department).
- d. Fire department personnel can provide and install hard-wired alarm, but only to the extent that the wiring that currently exists in the home is compatible with replacement alarms that the department has available. At no time will any wiring changes or electrical work be performed by the fire department.

Implemented: 4/2025