



Fort Mill Fire Department

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Tips on How to Reduce False Alarms from Sprinkler Systems, Fire Alarm Systems, Smoke Alarms, and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Commercial False Alarm Reduction

- Clean smoke detectors, heat detectors, and other devices on a regular basis.
- Have your Alarm System and Sprinkler System inspected and tested annually by a licensed contractor.
- During construction or significant maintenance in a monitored area, have the alarm system placed on test by the monitoring company and keep a fire watch in the area.
- Replace all detecting devices per manufacture recommendations
- Know how to cancel an alarm if you inadvertently trigger one

Residential False Alarm Reduction

- Clean all smoke alarms, heat detectors, and carbon monoxide alarms on a regular basis.
- Test all smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms every month by pushing the test button on the alarm
- If you have an Alarm System, have it inspected annually by a licensed fire alarm system contractor.
- During construction in a monitored area, have the alarm system placed on test by the monitoring company and keep a fire watch in the area.
- Change all smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector batteries every 6 months
- Replace all alarm devices every 10 years. Residential smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and other alarm devices typically have a 10 year life span.
- Be mindful of creating a dusty environment while cleaning your home. "Spring Cleaning" can create a potential false alarm.
- Have your heat and air system cleaned at least an annual basis. Dust on heating elements can create potential false alarms when the heat is turned on after a long summer.
- Pay attention to the stove and oven while cooking. Burnt food can easily cause a false alarm.