



Office of
Commissioner of Insurance

NEWS RELEASE

Ralph Hudgens
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Safety Fire Commissioner
Industrial Loan Commissioner

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**HUDGENS: WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS
CHANGE YOUR SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES**

ATLANTA -- Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens is urging everyone to change the batteries in their smoke alarms at the same time they change their clocks to daylight saving time on March 12.

“The annual change to daylight saving time is the perfect opportunity to make sure your smoke alarms are working properly,” Hudgens said. “Changing the batteries in each device is the easiest way to ensure continued protection of your family and property.”

In 2016, approximately 106 residential fires in Georgia resulted in 141 deaths. Of those fires, 96 of the homes did not have a working smoke alarm. This year, 22 Georgians have died in 18 residential fires, with only two of the homes having a working smoke alarm.

Commissioner Hudgens encourages all residents to test and clean dust from the smoke alarms monthly. He also recommends that you plan and practice an escape route to the outside of your home in the event of a fire.

Daylight saving time starts Sunday, March 12, at 2 a.m., when clocks are set ahead one hour.

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