

The General Assembly of the State of Delaware created the Fire Detection Fund, Title 16, Chapter 66, § 6637 of the Delaware Code relating to Fire Prevention. The Delaware Fire Detection Fund empowers the State Fire Prevention Commission to adopt rules and regulations to administer the installation of **Hard-Wired Smoke Detectors**. This program will be supervised by the State Fire Marshal.

The application of this law applies to owner-occupied residences not equipped with smoke detectors.

The objective of the fund is to ensure the installation of working smoke detectors in every private residence in the State of Delaware.

Priority will be given to homes with handicapped children, handicapped adults, infirm residents and residents 62 years of age and older.

The State Fire Marshal acknowledges that smoke detectors save lives. This is why he is dedicated to administering this program. His goal is to have every home in Delaware equipped with hard-wired smoke detectors.

This program has been assigned a name: **Operation SAFETY**
Stop A Fire Emergency This Year
A hard-wired single station smoke detector with battery back-up shall be installed in the hallway of each sleeping area, and each additional story of family living units, including basements. The smoke detection device is to be hard-wired into the building's electrical system in accordance with the provisions of the National Electrical Code.

The installation will have a timetable of thirty (30) days to be completed once an Electrical Contractor has been chosen and a contract issued.

Single Station Battery Operated Smoke Detectors will be issued to the occupant as an alternative device if a hard-wired detector cannot be installed due to existing wiring conditions. The Electrical Contractor will notify the State Fire Marshal's Office if these wiring conditions exist. The State Fire Marshal's Office will handle the projected change in the installation.

Single station hard-wired smoke detectors would be installed in one-and-two family dwellings, mobile homes, modular homes and townhouses.

Licensed and insured Electrical Contractors providing the installation shall have an active license to do electrical work in the

State of Delaware. Title 24, Chapter 14 of the Delaware Code.

Owners will have the opportunity to choose a licensed Electrical Contractor from a list provided by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

An Electrical Inspection Agency will give final approval for wiring connected to the owners electrical system.

A copy of the approval certificate from the Electrical Inspection Agency will be sent to the State Fire Marshal's Office.

RULES FOR HOMEOWNERS Smoke Detector Installation

A list of qualified Electrical Contractors will be provided to each **homeowner**. From this list, the **homeowner** will choose and contact the Electrical Contractor to be used in the installation of the **smoke detectors** needed in their home.

The Electrical Contractor has thirty (30) days to complete the installation of the hard-wired **smoke detectors**. The **homeowner** will be responsible to provide access to the contractor for installation within the allotted time.

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The Electrical Contractor will contact the **homeowner** to make the necessary arrangements for the scheduling of the installation of hard-wired smoke detectors. After completion, the contractor will be responsible to contact an Electrical Inspection Agency and have an Electrical Inspector approve that the installation meets the requirements of the National Electrical Code. The **homeowner** will be notified when the electrical inspection will be conducted.

The **homeowner** will be responsible to provide access for the Electrical Inspector to make the required inspection.

The sole responsibility for the installation of a hard-wired smoke detector will be between the **homeowner** and the **electrical** contractor.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

The State Fire Marshal's Office will work with fire departments, churches, Division of Health and Social Services, community leaders and legislators to identify those residents of owner-occupied homes that are not presently being protected by smoke detectors on each level of their residence.

To report an owner-occupied home that may qualify for an **Operation SAFETY** smoke detector installation, you are asked to provide the homeowner's name, address and phone number to one of our Divisional Offices listed below.

New Castle County

Office of State Fire Marshal
2307 MacArthur Road
New Castle, DE 19720-2426
Phone: (302) 323-5365
Fax: (302) 323-5366

Kent County

Office of State Fire Marshal
Delaware State Fire Service Center
1537 Chestnut Grove Road
Dover, DE 19904-1544
Phone: (302) 739-4394
Fax: (302) 739-3696

Sussex County

Office of State Fire Marshal
22705 Park Avenue
Georgetown, DE 19947-6303
Phone: (302) 856-5298
Fax: (302) 856-5800

Operation SAFETY



HARD WIRED SMOKE DETECTORS