



## City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

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### **Change Your Clock Change Your Battery March 8**

The Harrisonburg Fire Department is joining fire departments all across America in the annual “Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery” campaign. This life-saving program encourages people to change their smoke and carbon monoxide alarm (CO) batteries when they change their clocks. The time change occurs this year on Sunday, March 8.

Fire Marshal Captain Mike Armstrong is encouraging all residents to adopt the habit of changing the batteries in their alarms, “It’s a simple and inexpensive way to protect your family and your home. But don’t stop there! After changing the alarms practice a fire drill with your family, knowing two ways out and a family meeting place.”

Statistics from the United States Fire Administration show the following:

- Three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms
- More than one-third (37 percent) of home fire deaths result from fires in which no smoke alarms are present.
- The risk of dying in a home fire is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms.

On March 8 when changing your clocks please check your batteries! Making sure your smoke and CO alarms are working, and then practicing a fire drill, may save your life or the life of a family member!

*The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 50,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov). The Harrisonburg Fire Department is rated Fire Class 2 out of a 1 to 10 ranking by the Insurance Service Organization (ISO). More information about the Harrisonburg Fire Department is online at [www.harrisonburgfire.org](http://www.harrisonburgfire.org), Facebook and on Twitter @HFDVA.*