

---

# CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



**CONTACT:** Michael Jarvis  
Deputy Director,  
Communications  
(916) 653-7711

**RELEASE**  
**DATE:** March 9, 2007

## **CAL FIRE Reminds Californians to Change Clocks, Change Batteries**

**Sacramento-** CAL FIRE is reminding Californians to replace the batteries in all smoke detectors when turning clocks forward this Saturday night in observance of Daylight Saving Time.

This minimal effort could mean the difference between life and death. Already this year several fatalities have occurred in California which might have been prevented with working smoke alarms.

“Replacing the batteries in your smoke detector only takes a moment, yet the risk of neglecting these devices could cause a lifetime of regret,” says Director Ruben Grijalva of CAL FIRE. “If everyone made changing the smoke detector batteries as routine as changing their clocks, the benefit would be worth the effort.”

Every year lives are lost in homes without smoke detectors or those homes with a non-functioning smoke detector. In a study conducted by the National Fire Prevention Association, nearly 96% of households report having at least one fire alarm. Yet the US Fire Administration reports residential fires make up nearly 83% of all civilian fire deaths. The culprit is generally a disconnected or dead battery. Save a life. Change your clocks; change your smoke alarm batteries.

[Smoke Detectors Save Lives.](#)

Find more information at [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov).

###