

## News Release

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## USE THE EXTRA HOUR THIS WEEKEND TO REMIND FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO CHANGE THEIR SMOKE ALARM BATTERY

**Baton Rouge, LA-** Daylight-saving time ends Sunday, November 6, and marks the 24th anniversary of the "Change your Clock Change your Battery" which reminds us to change and test the batteries in our smoke alarms. This message is simple and the habit can be lifesaving.

The Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office reminds citizens that one easy step can help save their lives and the lives of their love ones. Everyone is encouraged to use the extra hour they "gain" from daylight-saving time to change the batteries in their own smoke alarms, test the alarms and remind friends, family, neighbors and fellow community members to do the same.

"Eighty percent of child fire fatalities occur in homes without working smoke alarms. It's a tragic statistic that could be reduced by adopting the simple habit of the Change Your Clock Change Your Battery program," says State Fire Marshal H. "Butch" Browning.

Changing smoke alarm batteries at least once a year, testing those alarms and reminding others to do the same are some of the simplest, most effective ways to reduce these tragic deaths and injuries. Fire Marshal Browning also encourages citizens to consider newer smoke alarm technology that has a ten year lithium battery.

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