



# TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLESEX CENTRE FIRE DEPARTMENT

10227 Ilderton Road – RR2 Ilderton, ON N0M 2A0  
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## NOTICE

### Important Smoke Alarm Information Ontario's Smoke Alarm Legislation Is Changing

**EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2006**, the Fire Code makes it mandatory to have working smoke alarms on every level including basements and outside all sleeping areas of every dwelling unit in the Province of Ontario. Because of the essential nature of smoke alarms as an early warning system in the event of fire, the Fire Code allows for penalties for various infractions. The following are the offences identified:

Fire Code Reference	Offence	Fine
Article 2.13.2.3.	Fail to install smoke alarm as required	<b>\$195.00</b>
Article 6.3.3.2.	Fail to maintain smoke alarm in operating condition	<b>\$195.00</b>
Article 6.3.3.3.	Fail to provide smoke alarm maintenance instructions to occupant	<b>\$195.00</b>
Article 6.3.3.4.	Intentionally disable smoke alarm to make it inoperable	<b>\$195.00</b>
Article 6.3.3.5.	Replace smoke alarm with reduced level of detection	<b>\$195.00</b>

Please note that in addition to the above fines, there is a "victim surcharge" of **\$35.00** and a set court fee of **\$5.00** for each offence for a total of **\$235.00** or a maximum **\$25,000.00** fine or up to one year in jail or both for individuals, and a maximum **\$50,000.00** fine for corporations, under Subsection 28. (3) of the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*... While the infractions apply to all dwellings, landlords and tenants should pay special attention to the wording of the offences. The owner is obligated to maintain smoke alarms in rental units and must check them on a yearly basis. When a tenant makes the landlord aware that the alarm is malfunctioning, the landlord must act immediately to rectify the problem. All rental dwelling units must be equipped with at least one working smoke alarm on every level including basements and outside all sleeping areas and that is the obligation of the landlord. If a tenant removes the battery or otherwise disables their smoke alarm, they could also face a fine.

*If you have any questions please contact  
Fire Chief Elston @ 666-0190 ext 239 or  
Jim McConnell, Chief Building Official @ 666-0190  
ext 230*

***Working Smoke Alarms: It's the Law!***

