



TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLESEX CENTRE

SMOKE ALARM

Make it Stop! Campaign Could Save Your Life

Middlesex Centre – January 26, 2007 The Middlesex Centre Fire Department is concerned by the number of smoke alarms in homes that have had their batteries removed or been disconnected within the Municipality.

Often occupants disable smoke alarms because the alarm has activated when they are cooking, making toast or after using the shower. These are called nuisance alarms.

"If nuisance alarms are a problem, people can visit www.makeitstop.ca or contact us to get life-saving tips and solutions," said Fire Chief John Elston. "Solutions include relocating the smoke alarm or installing a smoke alarm with a "hush" feature."

The solutions are part of new provincial campaign developed by the Office of the Fire Marshal called *Make it Stop!* to educate Ontarians about nuisance alarm solutions, smoke alarm technologies, home fire escape plans and the importance of working smoke alarms.

The Ontario Fire Code requires that every home have a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas. It is against the law to disable a smoke alarm.

The Middlesex Centre Fire Department wants to help the public to easily solve problems with nuisance alarms and ensure that all alarms are working to give residents those precious seconds they need to escape a fire.

For homeowners, tenants and individual landlords, failure to comply with the Fire Code smoke alarm requirements can result in a ticket for \$235 or a fine of up to \$50,000.

Anyone who has questions about nuisance alarms or other fire safety issues are welcome to contact the Middlesex Centre Fire Chief John Elston at **519 666-0190** or visit www.makeitstop.ca.