

HOUSING PROVIDER BULLETIN

MARCH 1, 2006 DEADLINE for SMOKE ALARMS!

Housing providers must ensure that every dwelling has a working smoke alarm on every level by March 1, 2006. It's the law!

The Ontario Fire Code was amended in December 2005 (Regulation 650\05) to require homes to have working smoke alarms on every level. This is in addition to the existing requirement for smoke alarms to be installed outside sleeping areas.

This Regulation will affect housing providers who have single family, semi-detached and townhouses.

It is acceptable to install battery-operated alarms in existing buildings; however, newly-constructed buildings must have alarms connected to a central panel.

Municipal fire departments will begin to enforce this new regulation after March 1, 2006.

The penalties for non-compliance with the smoke alarm requirements can result in a ticket for \$235 or a fine of up to \$25,000.

For further information, please call your local fire department or visit the Fire Marshall's website www.ofm.gov.on.ca.