

**Working smoke alarms give early warning of danger and are the single most important way to prevent fatal fires. Carbon monoxide is the leading cause of poisoning deaths in the US. Working smoke and CO alarms are critical to the safety of your family and home.**

The Sheffield Volunteer Fire Department, in coordination with the Red Cross, will be installing smoke and carbon monoxide ("CO") detectors in a small number of Sheffield homes over the next month.

Because supplies of these detectors are limited, strong preference will be given to households that (1) do not have such detectors installed, AND (2) cannot afford to purchase these detectors.

**PLEASE NOTE that every home is required to have working smoke alarms and most are also required to have carbon monoxide alarms.**

If you think you cannot afford these detectors, you should know that a typical pack of three (3) smoke alarms costs about \$30.00, and a typical CO detector with battery back-up costs about \$20.00. For an example, go to [https://www.amazon.com/s?k=smoke+detector&crd=2UVH02O5A7XO5&sprefix=smoke+%2Caps%2C191&ref=nb\\_sb\\_ss\\_ts-a-p\\_1\\_6](https://www.amazon.com/s?k=smoke+detector&crd=2UVH02O5A7XO5&sprefix=smoke+%2Caps%2C191&ref=nb_sb_ss_ts-a-p_1_6) to see how easy it is to purchase affordable detectors.

To register your interest in receiving smoke / CO detectors, send an e-mail to

[sheffieldvolunteerfire@gmail.com](mailto:sheffieldvolunteerfire@gmail.com)

Or call 413.229.2874

### **Protect Your Home and Family with Smoke Alarms**

- Have working smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside bedrooms, at the top of open stairs and at the base of cellar stairs.
- Maintain smoke alarms. **Test them once a month.**
- If the alarm uses regular batteries, change them at least once a year. **An easy way to remember is to change the batteries when you change your clocks.** A "chirping" sound indicates that it's time to change the batteries.
- **Smoke alarms must be replaced every 10 years.** Alarms are labeled with their date of manufacture. If there is no label, they are older than 10 years and must be replaced.