

Bylaw #3

CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF TEMAGAMI

By law No. 03- 551

Being a Bylaw to adopt a Smoke Alarm Program

WHEREAS the Ontario Fire Code Regulation 388/97 requires Municipalities to promote the installation and maintenance of working smoke alarms;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of Temagami wishes to establish a Smoke Alarm Policy

NOW THEREFORE THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF TEMAGAMI HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Municipality of Temagami adopts the attached Smoke Alarm Policy including Appendix "A" containing the Alarmed for Live! Survey and Appendix "B" the Temagami Smoke Alarm Program

READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME THIS 21st day of May 2003.

READ A THIRD TIME AND FINALLY ENACTED AND PASSED THIS 21st day of May, 2003



Mayor



CAO

Municipality of Temagami

Smoke Alarm Policy

This fire prevention policy has been reviewed and approved by the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami and is applicable in its entirety for the whole of the municipality.

Copies of this policy are available to the public through the Municipal Office or the Fire Department, upon request.

Ontario Fire Code O. Reg. 388/97, states:

*Smoke Alarms conforming to CAN/ULC-S531, "Smoke Alarms", shall be installed between each sleeping area and the remainder of the **dwelling unit**, and where the sleeping units are served by hallways, the **smoke alarms** shall be installed in the hallways. 2.13.2*

*Smoke alarms shall be maintained in operating condition by the **owner**. 6.3.3.2.(1)*

It is the policy of the Municipality of Temagami to promote the installation and maintenance of working smoke alarms in all dwelling units within the Municipality.

Fire Departments will conduct yearly assessments of smoke alarm usage, through implementation of the "Municipality of Temagami Smoke Alarm Program" (April/2003).

This program includes the following activities:

- Smoke alarm surveys, including door to door surveys,
- Promotion of fire escape planning,
- Distribution of public education material,
- Smoke alarms and replacement batteries available for sale, at cost, at the municipal office and fire halls,
- Enforcement of smoke alarm legislation as identified in the Ontario Fire Code
- Tracking and evaluation component

Temagami Fire Department Smoke Alarm Program

Goal of the Smoke Alarm program

Working Smoke alarms have proven their effectiveness in alerting residents to smoke and fire and reducing fire deaths. The benefits of having a home fire escape plan have been demonstrated time and time again in numerous news articles.

The goal of an effective smoke alarm program is to have a minimum of one working smoke alarms on every floor where sleeping accommodations are provided, and a home fire escape plan that the home owner/tenant has developed and practised.

The Smoke Alarm Program for the Municipality of Temagami will promote the benefits of working smoke alarms and home fire escape planning through door to door surveys, distribution of smoke alarms and home escape planning information, fire department displays, promotions and presentations through out the Municipality.

Community Profile

The Municipality is split into 2 areas receiving varying fire protection services. The smoke alarm program recognises the geographic and demographic varieties of each area with different survey methodology.

Full Fire Protection Services:

Temagami Fire Department response area - primarily year round residences, 242 residences with hydrant protection, 97 residences outside hydrant coverage area.

Marten River Fire Department response area - combination of seasonal and year round residences - no hydrant protection, 82 residences in the response area within the municipality.

Limited Fire Protection Area

This area of the Municipality is inaccessible by fire apparatus. A total of 996 structures, mostly summer cottages and hunt camps, with intermittent occupancy, are scattered throughout the Municipality. Residents pay a reduced rate for fire services to reflect the limited of suppression services provided (MNR Forest Fire Agreement- values protection - May to September).

Occupancy of these structures (primarily summer cottages) occurs sporadically through the summer, mainly on weekends, or during a 2 to 3 week time period (summer vacation).

Significant resources would be required to access all properties within this area - a large boat for big waters, small boat for smaller lakes, trailers, 4 wheel drive truck, and possibly two all terrain vehicles (ATV) to get to some remote locations.

Data Collection Methodology

Full Fire Protection Service Areas

1. Door to Door Surveys

- Survey / interview team(s) will comprise of 2 members. Fire Department visual wear and identification will be provided to the interview team(s).
- Each team will carry smoke detectors, 9 volt batteries, and an assortment of prevention material focusing on smoke alarms, home fire escape planning and fire safety.
- Surveys, co-ordinated by the fire prevention officer, will be conducted throughout the year.
- Each year approximately 25% of the homes to be targeted for a door to door survey. It is anticipated that all homes will have been surveyed at least once at the end of 5 years. Recognising that some residents will not be at home at the time of the initial survey, additional attempts will be made to contact/survey the resident. A portion of the population may decline to participate in the survey, and this statistic will also be tabulated and evaluated.
 - **Temagami Fire Department response area:** approximately 80 homes with hydrants & 25 homes without hydrant protection will be surveyed each year.
 - **Marten River Fire Department response area:** approximately 20 homes with-in the Municipality will be surveyed per year.
 - **Smoke alarm surveys will also be conducted for areas outside the Municipality where a formal, written fire protection agreement(s) are in place.** Residents will be surveyed / interviewed based on a 25% ratio every year.
- Survey questionnaire will be filled out at each residence visited (including non-participating locations). A sample questionnaire is attached (Appendix A)
- Residents will be asked to answer the questions on the survey, and also requested to test the smoke detector closest to the bedrooms, while the survey team remains at the door / entrance.
- Homes without smoke detectors will be provided one smoke detector for each floor with bedroom(s). The homeowner/tenant will be requested to install it in the hallway outside sleeping areas. Residents will also be told a follow-up visit may occur, confirming that the detector has been installed and is operational.
- Homes with smoke detectors that are lacking batteries will be provided a 9-volt battery for each detector requiring one. Residents can then test the alarm(s) while the survey crew is still on the premises.
- Packages of fire prevention material will be left at all homes visited, including residences where no one is home. Appendix "B" lists prevention material distributed during the survey.

Limited Fire Protection Area

Given the lack of fire department resources to access the majority of cottages, the sporadic occupancy, and the difficulty to conduct an effective door to door survey, alternate means of contact with occupants is implemented. Opportunities to improve access to occupants, including community events and developing partnerships will continue to be explored.

1. Special Event Displays

- Events within or geared to the limited fire protection area will be targeted for smoke alarm presentations / displays / promotions.
- People will be encouraged to visit the booth, complete a survey questionnaire, and if they indicate their cottage does not have a working smoke alarm they will receive smoke detectors or 9-volt batteries as required (similar to the door to door campaign). A sample questionnaire is attached (Appendix A)
- Fire prevention information, including smoke alarm and home fire escape planning literature, will be provided at the same time. In addition, literature on fire extinguishers, wood heating and forest/urban interface will be available at the display.
Yearly events:
 - Temagami Lakes Association Flea market (August long weekend) - Lake Temagami
 - Cassels and Adjoining Lakes Association (CALA) yearly meeting

2. Kiosk / pamphlet display Unit

- An acrylic pamphlet display unit has been established at the T.L.A. building, increasing the accessibility of fire prevention material to their members and the public visiting the cottage association headquarters.

Partnerships

1. Building Department

Numerous building permits are issued throughout the Municipality, all requiring on-site inspections by the building inspector.

- Full Fire Protection Services Area
The Municipal Building Inspector will request the resident test their smoke alarm when conducting a building permit inspection (as circumstances dictate).
- Limited Fire Protection Area
The Municipal Building Inspector will ask the residents to complete a smoke alarm survey when conducting a building permit inspection (as circumstances dictate).
- The Fire Department will provide the Building Inspector with a supply of smoke alarms, batteries and literature to distribute, where required.
- All survey data will be forwarded to the fire prevention officer for inclusion in the smoke alarm usage database.

2. Century 21/ Don McMillan Realtor

- Beginning in February of 2003, homeowners for all homes and cottages sold (in the municipality) through Century 21 real-estate in Temagami, will be provided with a "Your Safe Home Kit", complements of the Temagami Fire Department. Information on distribution of

each kit will be provided to the fire department for inclusion in the smoke alarm usage / tracking database.

Tracking and Evaluation

Tracking:

A survey form will be completed for each contact *I* person *I* location.

A summary sheet will be completed based on information provided on the survey forms, compiled on a yearly basis - hard copy at this time. It is anticipated that the information will be placed in a database at some point in time, to assist in the evaluation and tracking of survey information.

Use of the 911 civic addressing will be utilized as soon as it becomes available. Sample tracking spreadsheet attached - Appendix "C".

Evaluation:

Information will be summarised on a yearly basis. Smoke alarm usage and effectiveness will be noted and fire safety education programs/distribution of literature, based on trends identified, will be developed/revised.

The smoke alarm program will be evaluated and modified as circumstances dictate, ensuring it continues to meet the needs and circumstances of the community.

Distribution of Smoke Detectors & Batteries

Alarms & batteries will be provided free of charge to residences surveyed.

Alarms will be made available during displays /promotions to residents indicating they do not have smoke detectors. These promotions will focus on events associated with the Limited Fire Protection Area.

Smoke detectors, and batteries will be available for purchase, at cost, at the Municipal office or through both Fire Departments.

Commercial operators (i.e. tourist accommodations) will only be able to receive alarms for their residence (owner/operator).

Distribution of pamphlets

The "distribution of educational material" component of the smoke alarm program will focus on providing smoke alarm information and home fire escape planning.

Appendix "B" lists prevention material provided as part of the Smoke Alarm Program

Enforcement (smoke alarm legislation)

At this point in time the Fire Department's focus will be to assist the homeowner in complying with legislation.

Enforcement through the ticketing provision of the Ontario Fire Code or laying of charges will be considered as a last resort option to ensure code compliance.

Municipality of Temagami Alarmed for Life! Survey



Date: _____
Occupant's name: _____
Owner's name: _____
Address: _____

1. Type of residence:
à detached a semi-detached a duplex a townhome
à low-rise apartment a high-rise apartment a other _____
2. Number of storeys (including basement):
one_ two___ three___ four or more _____
3. How many smoke alarms are in the home? (If zero, proceed to question 10)
zero_one___ two___ three or more _____
4. Is there at least one alarm on each level of the home?
Yes___ No___
5. If no, which levels did not have an alarm?
Basement___ 1st floor___ 2nd floor___ 3rd floor___ other___
6. How many smoke alarms were tested?
zero___ one___ two___ three or more _____
7. How many alarms did not work?
zero___ one___ two___ three or more _____
8. If smoke alarms did not work, indicate the number of alarms with the following problem(s):
Battery disconnected _____ Hardwired - disconnected _____
Battery dead _____ Hardwired - power off _____
Battery missing _____ Other _____
9. How many batteries were provided?
zero___ one___ two___ three or more _____
10. How many new smoke alarms were provided?
zero___ one___ two___ three or more _____
11. Did you leave fire safety education handouts? Please specify.
Yes No _____
12. Did you give any additional instructions? Please specify.
Yes No _____

Temagami Smoke Alarm Program

Appendix "B"

Appendix "B" lists fire prevention pamphlets, brochures, and information provided as part of the Municipality of Temagami Smoke Alarm Program. Fire educational material / information provided will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure suitability of fire prevention messages remain current with the needs and circumstances of the community.

The following fire educational material will be distributed as a "package" to address minimum requirements on the educational component of the Municipality of Temagami Smoke Alarm Program:

- "Plan Your Escape" worksheet
- "Fire in Your Home" booklet (NFPA - SPP-52G)
- "Facts about Smoke & Fire/Carbon Monoxide" pamphlet (American Sensors #1508-001 - rev. B)
- "fridge magnets"

Additional fire educational material to be provided in packages distributed in the "Limited Fire Protection Area" include:

- "Protect Your Forest Home or Summer Cottage" (MNR 3322 - ISBN 0-7778-5139-3)
- "Wildfire Are You and Your Home Prepared?" (MNR 50485 - ISBN 0-7778-2530-9)
- "What You Should Know about Restricted Fire Zones" (MNR 5630 IBN 0-7778-5143-1)