Join the American Red Cross to Sound the Alarm. Save a Life

By American Red Cross

PA - Just One Day of Your Life Can Change Someone Else's Forever. Home fires claim seven lives every day, but having working smoke alarms can cut the risk of death by half.

That's why the American Red Cross is rallying volunteers to install free smoke alarms nationwide, as part of our Sound the Alarm events.

This year we'll install free smoke alarms, create escape plans and share fire safety information.

Join us for a rewarding day at a Sound the Alarm event near you. Make an even greater impact and donate to help families prepare for, respond to and recover from home fires.

How You Can Get Involved

Help the Red Cross Sound the Alarm about home fire safety through education, volunteering and providing financial support. Go to https://www.redcross.org/sound-the-alarm.html.





Conservation Tip

By DCNR

PA. - As Halloween approaches and the pumpkins start piling up, there are plenty of ways to put them to good use without harming local ecosystems.

Instead of tossing them out or leaving them in natural areas, consider these simple, wildlife-friendly ideas to make the most of your leftover pumpkins while keeping your local habitats healthy:

Don't Dump Your Pumpkins -- Don't leave pumpkins in state parks, forests, or anywhere you don't have permission to do so.

Compost Your Pumpkins -- If you've carved a jack-o-lantern, it may already be decomposing. Because pumpkins are mostly water, they are a great addition to your compost pile. Prevent unwanted pumpkin plants by removing the seeds first.

Share Pumpkin Seeds with Wildlife -- Collect seeds from your pumpkins (before composting them) and let the seeds dry. You can scatter the seeds outside or put them in a platform feeder as a special treat (don't add salt or seasoning).

Cut Pumpkins into Pieces for Animals -- Cut your pumpkin into pieces and scatter outside as a treat for local critters. Birds will feed on the flesh of the pumpkins in addition to the seeds, as will squirrels, foxes, and deer.

Make a "Snack-o-lantern" -- Re-use your pumpkin and turn it into a pumpkin feeder! Cut the pumpkin in half and fill with birdseed. You can use sticks, dowels, and rope to hang them from trees and create a custom feeder. This works best with fresh, firm pumpkins.

Remember, not all pumpkins are safe for wildlife. Don't set out pumpkins or gourds that have been bleached, are painted, or have fake foliage or plastic decorations for wildlife, which can be toxic and harmful.

