



**American
Red Cross**

West Central Ohio Chapter
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News Release
NEWS RELEASE

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FOR MEDIA ONLY

Red Cross and Bath Township Fire Department partner to Install Smoke Alarms and Teach People Fire Safety

Lima, Ohio (Wednesday, February 28, 2018) – The American Red Cross along with the Bath Township Fire Department will be going door-to-door as part of its Sound the Alarm Campaign to teach people how to be prepared for home fires and install smoke alarms where needed.

Seven times a day someone in this country dies in a home fire. Countless others suffer injuries. To combat these tragic statistics, the Red Cross has launched a nationwide campaign to reduce the number of deaths and injuries due to home fires by 25 percent by 2020.

The Sound the Alarm Campaign is happening all over the country and involves Red Cross workers joining with local fire departments and community groups to visit neighborhoods at high risk for fires. Those visits include educating people about fire safety through door-to-door visits and installation of smoke alarms in some of these neighborhoods.

“Installing smoke alarms cuts the risk of someone dying from a home fire in half, so we’re joining with groups from across our community to install smoke alarms,” said Derek Stemen, Executive Director of the West Central Ohio Chapter. “We also will be teaching people how to be safe from a home fire.”

The Bath Township Fire Department will be joining the Red Cross on Friday, March 9th from 4pm – 7pm to install smoke alarms in homes in the Belmont subdivision. During this time, they will also teach people about what to do in case a fire breaks out in their home.

“Bath Township Fire Department is proud to partner with the American Red Cross on this exciting project,” said Bath Township Fire Chief, Joseph Kitchen. “I am confident that our combined efforts will help prevent injuries and deaths from fires in our community.”

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or visit us on Twitter at [@RedCross](https://twitter.com/RedCross).

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