

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL**

SCOTT GARNER
FIRE MARSHAL
scott.garner@brunswickcountync.gov



TELEPHONE
(910) 253-2577
(800) 522-2366

FAX
(910) 253-4451

PRESS RELEASE

Time: 2:00 p.m., March 20, 2015

Brunswick County Emergency Services in conjunction with the Brunswick County Fire Departments will be hosting a Smoke Alarm Rally on Saturday, Mar. 28, 2015. While this event was previously scheduled for a region of the county, the recent increase in fire deaths caused the expansion of this event to include the entire county. Beginning around 10 a.m. on the 28th, crews of volunteers will begin canvassing the county in an effort to ensure homes are equipped with working smoke alarms as well as providing testing of existing alarms and fire safety education.

This event is being made possible through a grant from the North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal. Other co-sponsors of this event include the American Red Cross, North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministries, Energizer Batteries, UNCW Latino Alliance, North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing and local Walmart, Lowes Home Improvement and Home Depot stores.

Individuals who are concerned about the smoke alarms or lack thereof in their home may call the Brunswick County Emergency Services Office at 910-253-5383 to be placed on a list to have crews visit them.

Individuals who may be interested in volunteering for this event can register online at <http://ow.ly/Kipnz> or call Emergency Services to place their name on the volunteer roster. Volunteers will need to be at Odell Williamson Auditorium, located at 50 College Road in Bolivia, at 9 a.m. on Mar. 28 for training.

Brunswick County Fire Marshal Scott Garner stated, "The goal of this event is to install 1,000 smoke alarms in at-risk homes throughout the county. We want to ensure that every home has a smoke alarms in it. This is also a way for us to honor those that we have tragically lost in these recent home fires. We want to save lives by ensuring that residents can be quickly alerted of the need for escape when a fire occurs in their home."

For questions of additional information, contact Fire Marshal Scott Garner at 910-253-2577.

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