

September 26, 2013

News Release

For Immediate Release

Fire Department awarded federal grant to purchase smoke alarms

The Springfield Fire Department is proud to announce it has received an \$8,500 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to purchase 100 smoke alarms for the hearing-impaired.

Hearing loss is one of the most common conditions affecting older adults. For many of these individuals, a hearing-impaired smoke alarm is needed to properly warn them of a fire in their home. The smoke alarms are louder than traditional alarms and are equipped with a strobe light to awaken hearing-impaired residents.

Since the beginning of 2010, the Springfield Fire Department has installed a total of 83 hearing-impaired smoke alarms in homes in our community. However, the demand has far exceeded the supply of alarms and the cost of the alarms has prohibited the Department from purchasing the necessary number to meet the demand. This grant allows the Fire Department to purchase 100 hearing-impaired smoke alarms that will be installed in homes throughout Springfield by Fire Department personnel.

The smoke alarms are available and ready for installation. Eligible recipients include hearing-impaired homeowners who live in the city limits of Springfield. Those interested in receiving a hearing-impaired smoke alarm should call the Springfield Fire Department at 417-864-1515.

For media only: For more information, contact Fire and Life Safety Educator Cara Restelli Erwin at 417-864-1699 or cerwin@springfieldmo.gov.