



## Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives

**Test Yours Every Month!**

Go to [FPW.org](http://FPW.org)



When was the last time you tested the smoke alarms in your home? Was it last week? Last month? A year ago?

If you're like many people, you may not even remember. Smoke alarms have become such a common feature of U.S. households that they're often taken for granted, and aren't tested and maintained as they should.

However, working smoke alarms are a critical fire safety tool that can mean the difference between life and death in a fire at home. According to the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), smoke alarms can cut the chance of dying in a home fire in half. Meanwhile, NFPA data shows that home fires killed more than 2,300 people in 2012; many of these deaths could have been prevented with the proper smoke alarm protection.

As a member of the fire service, I've seen the devastating effects of fire first-hand; the burn injuries, the loss of homes and possessions are distressing. What's even worse is witnessing a family's anguish after a loved one has been killed in a fire. It's heartbreaking.

During the month of October, the NFPA is promoting "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!" to better educate the public about the true value of working smoke alarms.

My sincere hope is that all Wallops Flight Facility civil servants and contractors participate and check to make sure there are working smoke alarms installed throughout their homes. These simple steps can help make a life-saving difference, and prevent the potentially life-threatening impact of fire.

Here are additional smoke alarm tips to follow:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Test alarms each month by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms, including alarms that use 10-year batteries and hard-wired alarms, when they are 10 year old or sooner if they do not respond properly.

Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound and understands what to do when they hear the smoke alarm.

To learn more about the "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!" campaign, visit NFPA's Web site at [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org).

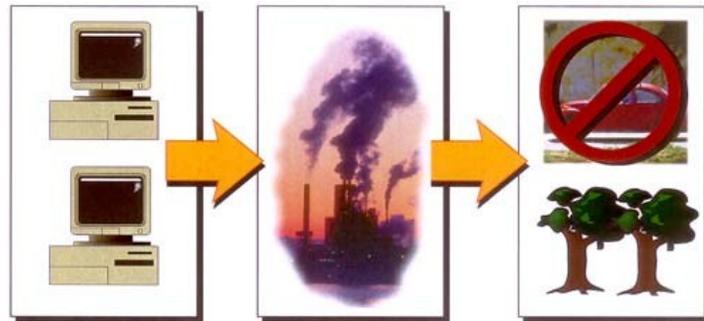
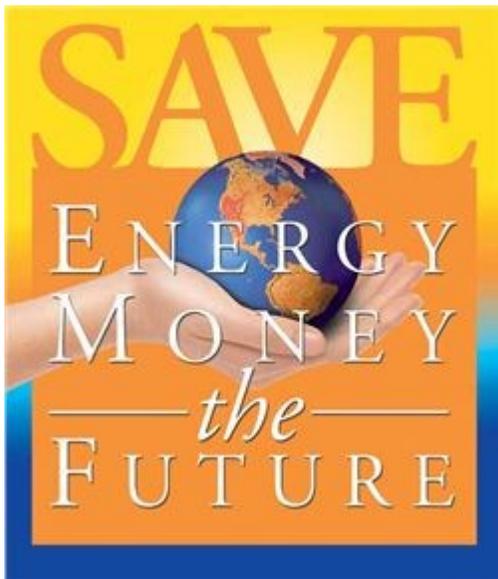
**Chief James Atkins**  
**Wallops Flight Facility Fire Department**



## October is Energy Action Month

### Save Energy: 10 Simple Things You Can Do

- Use your desktop lamp.
- Use compact fluorescent lamps to save energy and cut pollution.
- For three copies or less, use the printer; for more, use the copier.
- Laser printers use 300 watts; inkjets use only 10, for similar quality.
- Using the "stand-by" button on your copier will lighten the energy load by 70%.
- A computer monitor uses 60 watts of power; turn it off if you leave for more than 10 minutes.
- Recycling paper reduces water use by 60%, energy by 70%, and cuts pollution in half.
- Relax, take mass transit, and use 25 times less energy.
- Burn carbohydrates not hydrocarbons; ride your bike to work.
- Airplanes burn 70 gallons of fuel a minute. Travel by a real super-saver--teleconference.



Turning 2 computers off nights and weekends = 8,100 kWh

Reduction of utility generated CO2 = 15,000 lb CO2

Equal to removing one car from the road for one year or planting two acres of trees



Photo credit: Joel Mitchell

### Wallops Beach Cleanup

On September 20, 2014, 17 volunteers collected 352 pounds of trash from Wallops Beach as part of the International Coastal Cleanup. Compiled results from the 2013 International Cleanup can be found at:

<http://www.oceanconservancy.org/our-work/international-coastal-cleanup/>

#### WEIRD FINDS

**Enough items to furnish an entire studio apartment,** including an air conditioner, sink, refrigerator, dishwasher, oven, microwave, washing machine, couch, table and chairs, television set, coffee table, rug, curtains, toilet, dresser, desk and a bed complete with mattress, pillows and pillow cases.

**Most of the items needed for a wedding,** including a wedding dress, wedding ring, veil, top hat, bowties, wine glasses and flowers.

**All the items necessary for caring for a baby,** including baby blankets, clothes, shoes, bottles, pacifiers, a rattle, a stroller, a crib, a baby gate, a high chair and a baby monitor.

**OTHER ITEMS FOUND**

1984 typewriter	Halt-mission medal	Plastic eye ball	Treasure map in a bottle
Blond wig	Lava lamp	Prison bracelet	Voodoo doll in a jar
Correctional officer's uniform	Letter in a bottle	Rosary beads	Working iPad
GPS unit	Loaded handgun	Shovel	
Guitar	Multi-textbook	Torn up love letter	
	Pink tu tu	Trampoline	