



Understanding Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms provide your family with 24-7 protection from the deadly effects of fire, but selecting and installing a smoke alarm in the home can be a bit daunting! The Tallahassee Fire Department is here to help you understand this decision.



Statistics tell us that half of the nation's fire deaths occur in the four percent of homes that do not have smoke alarms. Locally, TFD responds to over 30 reported fires every month, often accounting for millions of dollars in damages and serious injuries. Home fires DO occur in our community

and can be devastating and sometimes fatal. Early notification and having a well-rehearsed escape plan are vital to escaping a home fire.

When choosing a smoke alarm, be sure you pick a hard-wired or sealed ten-year battery alarm, as required by Florida law. The law requires these options for residential single and multi-family units and applies only for new construction, home renovation and when replacing an old alarm (greater than 10 years). However, TFD recommends upgrading as soon as possible.

As a general rule, install smoke alarms on every floor of your home – in hallways, inside bedrooms and outside of sleeping areas.

Last but certainly not least, test your smoke alarm monthly to ensure it is working properly. For more information about smoke alarms and other life safety topics, visit Talgov.com/fire.



RESCUERS WANTED!

The City of Tallahassee operates 11 pools at seven facilities each summer swim season. Thousands of guests make lasting memories passing the day poolside and cooling off in the water.



Their enjoyment is only possible thanks to the dedicated service of the lifeguards who stand watch at each facility.

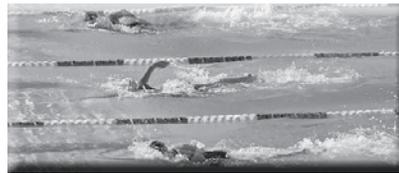
Each summer, the City hires certified lifeguards to help protect its pools. Lifeguards have flexible schedules, and positions are available at all City pools.

To get certified, the City offers Lifeguard Training Courses. Information about these courses is posted online at Talgov.com. The class costs \$75 for those wanting to work for the City. If

you want to get certified but are not seeking work with the City, the class costs \$175. Registration has begun, and the first class begins on April 8.

Prerequisites required for participation in the Lifeguard Training Course include the following. These skills will be tested on the first day of class to determine eligibility. Candidates who cannot pass these skills will not be permitted to take the course. Practicing in advance is recommended. Once registered for a class, students are allowed to practice at the City pools free of charge.

- Be at least 15 years of age on or before the final scheduled day of the class for which you are registered.
- Swim 300 yards continuously, demonstrating breath control and rhythmic breathing. Candidates may swim using the front crawl, breaststroke or a combination of both. Swimming on the back or side is not allowed when meeting this requirement. Swim goggles can be used during this portion of the pre-test.



- Tread water for two minutes using only the legs. Candidates should place their hands under their armpits.
- Starting in the water, swim 20 yards. Surface dive to a depth of 7-10 feet and retrieve a 10 pound object. Return to the surface with the object. Swim 20 yards back to the starting point while holding the object with both hands and face out of the water. Exit the water without using a ladder or steps. This skill must be completed in its entirety within 1 minute, 40 seconds. Swim goggles cannot be used during this portion of the pre-test.



Whether you want to be a lifeguard or not, if you plan to enjoy pool time this summer, the City encourages people of all ages to enroll in swimming lessons. Learning to swim is a lifesaving skill and provides lifelong recreation and fitness opportunities. Information about swimming lessons is posted on Talgov.com. If you are interested in learning to teach swimming lessons, the City is hiring instructors and will provide training free of charge.



For more information about becoming a lifeguard or swim lessons instructor for the City, please call the Trousdell Aquatics Center at 891-4901. Information about the different City aquatic facilities and programs is available at Talgov.com.

MAY CALENDAR

- 11** City Commission workshop at 1 pm
- 11** City Commission meeting at 4 pm
- 16** Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency Board meeting at 1 pm
- 24** Joint City/County Comp Plan Adoption Public Hearing at 6 pm at the Leon County Courthouse, 301 South Monroe Street
- 25** City Commission meeting at 4 pm
- 30** **Memorial Day holiday**; administrative offices closed (City solid waste collection schedules change during holiday weeks. Please visit Talgov.com/YOU for information on schedule changes during the Memorial Day holiday week.)

All meetings are held in the City Commission Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall (300 S. Adams St.), unless noted otherwise. Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. City Commission meetings are shown live on WCOT, the City's government access channel (Comcast Cable and CenturyLink channel 13). The meetings are rebroadcast the following Thursday at 12:30 pm and 7:30 pm and the following Saturday and Sunday at 12:30 pm. City Commission meetings are also streamed live online and are indexed and posted for viewing on Talgov.com. Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information or view the current City Commission agenda online at Talgov.com. Follow City news on Twitter @COTNews.