

Announcement: Fee and Application Process for the Inspection of Large Hard-Wired Smoke Detector Installations - effective immediately

Effective March 1, 2006, it is the law for all Ontario homes to have a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas. With this previously announced Fire Code amendment now in effect, it is hoped there will be a reduction of the number of preventable fire-related injuries and fatalities. The amendment covers single family, semi-detached and town homes, whether owner-occupied or rented. For more information on this requirement, please refer to <http://www.ofm.gov.on.ca>.

If the smoke detector(s) is **hard-wired (not battery operated)** it requires inspection by the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) under the requirements of the Ontario Electrical Safety Code.

ESA has recently completed a review to determine an appropriate fee and application process, on a going forward basis, to inspect large installations of wired smoke detectors (e.g. a townhouse complex). This review took into consideration such things as, inspection effort and administrative burden on customers/contractors.

As a result of this review, the following fee and application process will apply for the inspection of large smoke detector installations, effectively immediately.

- * ***If this is the only electrical work being completed, it's at one location (complex), and all the detectors can be inspected during the same inspection visit, then the sum of all detectors installed will be priced as per Section 4.2.1 - (Renovations of Residential Units) of the 2006 Electrical Inspection Fee Schedule (e.g. a total of 35 smoke detectors are installed in a townhouse complex - one application can be submitted to the Customer Service Centre and the fee for one inspection visit is \$103).***

- * ***If there are various complexes involved and the inspector has to travel by vehicle to these different complexes, then there must be a separate application for inspection submitted for each complex. Section 4.2.1 will apply to the sum of detectors installed (by complex) and will cover one inspection visit for each application.***

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact the Customer Service Centre at 1-877-ESA-SAFE (372-7233).