

Keep this checklist!



How to prevent a false alarm

- It is advisable to inspect your system once a year.
- Some alarm systems can be triggered when the control box battery is too low. Batteries should be replaced every 4 to 5 years.
- Motion detectors should be positioned so that they cannot respond to items that are likely to set off an inappropriate alarm (e.g. fan, pet, fireplace, mirror or any object that could fly around such as paper).
- All system users must be familiar with operations and alarm procedures when the system is armed.
- Keep the phone number of your security firm handy to inform them promptly of any false alarm.
- Inform your security firm of any changes that may require modifying your alarm system (e.g. acquisition of a pet, work on your phone line or coaxial cable for TV or Internet, adding a new user).
- Before leaving home, check that all doors and windows are closed securely.

Get ready!

Changes to the harmonized municipal by-law on alarm systems

Heads Up!

a FALSE ALARM... is still an ALARM!

Get ready!



What's behind the changes to the harmonized municipal by-law on alarm systems?

After a study of statistics relating to the financial and social costs brought about by false alarms, the Committee considers it an urgent priority to modify the harmonized municipal by-law regarding false alarms from whatever cause.

What are the social costs of false alarms?

1. Unnecessary calls and waiting for the arrival of the person responsible for the building represent a considerable waste of time for emergency personnel (police, firefighters, etc.)
2. The majority of alarms resulting in calls later proved to be unfounded. Emergency situations often involve hurrying to the scene and put at risk the lives of people whose work is safety, without calculating the potential for collateral damage;
3. Emergency personnel could be freed up for real emergencies.

What changes are planned and when do they start?

Starting October 1, 2009, a ticket will be issued after the second false alarm (fire, break-in) rather than the third. The alarm sound or light must not be in operation for more than 15 minutes consecutively, rather than 30 minutes as before.

You may need to change the programming of your alarm system. All these changes come into force on October 1, 2009. There will be no grace period.

For more information, contact your municipality.

Get ready!

