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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Change Your Clocks, Check Your Batteries & Practice Your Escape Plan!**

Sunday, March 11th at 2am is the official time in which your clocks will need to “spring forward” an hour. A good time to change your clock forward is Saturday evening before going to bed. Also, keep in mind to check your batteries and alarm devices during a severe storm or prolonged power outages for damage.

Working smoke alarms save lives. Test your alarms monthly to be sure they work properly. Typically, 9-volt batteries should be tested once per month and changed twice per year, while ten year lithium batteries just need to be tested on a monthly basis to ensure they are working properly. Smoke alarms should be replaced after ten years or according to the manufactures' instructions. It's a good idea to write the expiration date on your smoke alarm or find the “born on date” located on the back of most smoke alarm brands. Refer to the manufacturer's instructions for specific directions.

This is also a great time to practice your fire escape plan. Always find two ways out, get the family together, and if you haven't already done so, plan your escape! Simply draw out the floor plan of your home, identify two ways out of every room, establish a meeting place outside, and practice it twice a year. Make sure that every family member knows how to get out of every room and knows where your family meeting place is located outside. Make this a fun event! Children practice fire drills at school, so why not in the home?

Lake Stevens Fire reminds you to take time to be safe and enjoy the increased daylight hours throughout the spring and summer seasons.

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**LAKE STEVENS**  
**FIRE**

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*“Touching Lives Today ~ Planning for Tomorrow”*

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