False Alarms Are Expensive

In 2002, false alarms cost $1,800,000,000 nationwide.²

These costs can decrease if you opt for the common sense measures for false alarms and learn to prevent false alarms from happening.

Top 6 Causes of False Alarms

1. Language Barrier: Language barriers can cause confusion and delay when communicating with emergency services.
2. Search and Service: Miscommunication between emergency services and facility staff can lead to unnecessary calls.
3. False Alarms: Regular false alarms can lead to decreased response times and the need for additional training.
4. Training: Lack of adequate training can lead to errors in communication and response.
5. Errors in Operation: Errors in operation can lead to false alarms and miscommunications.
6. Poor Planning: Poor planning can lead to inadequate response protocols and delays.

5 Easy Ways to Prevent False Alarms

1. Place Sensors in Proper Places: Position sensors in areas where they can effectively monitor for false alarms without interfering with normal activities.
2. Properly Train, Checks: Train employees on how to use sensors and respond to alarms, ensuring that they understand the need for accuracy.
3. Equipment Checkup: Regularly check equipment for malfunctions and ensure that it is functioning correctly to prevent false alarms.
4. Secure Your Doors and Windows: Ensure that doors and windows are secure to prevent unauthorized access and potential false alarms.
5. Designate False Alarms: Set up a system for designating false alarms, ensuring that they are not responded to without confirmation.

What to Do When Accidents Happen

1. Keep Calm: Stay calm and gather information about the situation before contacting emergency services.
2. Communicate with Your Security Provider: If you have a security provider, contact them immediately to report the situation.
3. Do Not Call 911: Unless you are experiencing a true emergency, do not call 911 as it can tie up valuable resources.
4. Set Up Outdoor Floodlights: Set up outdoor floodlights to help emergency responders locate your property and respond more quickly.
5. Review Your Systems: Regularly review and test your security systems to ensure they are operating correctly and to prevent false alarms.

Help Others Prevent False Alarms

Share this reference guide for preventing false alarms with your family, friends, and neighbors.

² Source: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)