



INFORMATION BULLETIN

False Alarm Bylaw Enforcement

Abbotsford, January 7, 2014 – As of January 1, 2014, Abbotsford Fire Rescue Service (AFRS) will be enforcing the updated False Alarm Bylaw.

Under the bylaw, a “false alarm” includes the activation of a fire alarm system that results in the unwarranted attendance by the Fire Rescue Service. This includes situations where:

- the fire alarm system has malfunctioned or was activated maliciously;
- the cause of the alarm cannot be determined;
- the alarm results from a security alarm system being routed to the Fire Rescue Service;
- the alarm was activated in error; and/or
- the alarm was activated during unauthorized testing or an Owner or Occupier fails to notify the monitoring company or the Fire Rescue Service when carrying out testing, repair, and/or maintenance to a fire alarm system, and such failure results in the activation of the fire alarm system and attendance at the property by the Fire Rescue Service.

The False Alarm Bylaw ensures the highest level of life safety protection for our citizens while improving the effectiveness of the Fire Rescue Service to respond to emergencies in a timely manner.

AFRS would like to remind all citizens to have fire alarms serviced regularly. An alarm that repeatedly goes off could be indicative of a faulty alarm system and should be serviced. Not only will this help prevent false alarms, it can help save lives.

For more information contact:

Mike Helmer

Deputy Fire Chief

E: mhelmer@abbotsford.ca

Tel: 604-853-3566