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Can you spare a few hours on Saturday, Aug. 29, to help your neighbor? Sign up to be part of the national American Red Cross Home Fire Preparedness Campaign. The Burleson Fire Marshal's Office is looking for volunteers to go out in to selected neighborhoods in Burleson. The goal is for the volunteers to work alongside members of the fire marshal's office, the Burleson Fire Department and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members to provide and install smoke detectors where needed. Residents will also receive tips on emergency preparedness. Volunteers will visit the homes between 8 a.m. and noon on Aug. 29.

All volunteers must sign up on the Home Fire Preparedness Smoke Alarm Installation – Burleson page on the Red Cross website, <http://bit.ly/Burlesonfirepreparedness>, AND, fill out a Home Fire Preparedness Volunteer Registration form on the City website, <http://bit.ly/Burlesonvolregistration>. Potential volunteers must attach a copy of their driver's license with the City's volunteer registration form so that staff can conduct a background check. Turn in the completed registration forms to Burleson Fire Inspector/Investigator Jessica Eiswald at Fire Station #1, 828 S.W. Alsbury Blvd., by Thursday, Aug. 27. On Aug. 29, volunteers will meet in Meeting Room A at the BRiCk, 550 N.W. Summercrest Blvd., at 8 a.m. There will be a briefing, and then volunteers will break up in to teams to canvas designated neighborhoods.

The Home Fire Preparedness Campaign is a multi-year strategy for the American Red Cross. The goals are to save lives that are lost to preventable causes like fires, disasters, choking and cardiac arrest. According to Red Cross, seven times a day someone dies in a home fire. Every 40 minutes, an injury from a fire is reported. Nearly 1,000 times a day fire departments are called to home fires. Data shows that 4 percent of homes without smoke alarms represent nearly 40 percent of the home fires and that working smoke alarms can double someone's chance of surviving a fire. The national goal for Red Cross, each year, is to install 500,000 smoke alarms.

For more information about volunteering for the Home Fire Preparedness campaign in Burleson, you can attend a CERT meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 27, at Fire Station #1, or call Burleson Fire Inspector/Investigator Jessica Eiswald at 817-426-9177.