

Town of Eaton

Evans Memorial Building PO Box 88

Eaton, New Hampshire 03832-0088 603-447-2840

Tips for Managing Security Systems During Construction and Renovations

The Town of Eaton has a Private Alarm System Regulation that imposes fines for excessive false alarms as follows:

First False Alarm – No Charge Third False Alarm – \$200.00 Second False Alarm -- \$100.00

Fourth & Beyond Alarms -- \$300.00 each

We are providing these tips to help you more effectively manage your construction project and the impact on your alarm system. These tips have two goals: to ensure that security, fire and temperature alarms function as well as possible during construction and to prevent the expense and risk of unnecessary false alarms.

The Tips:

- 1. Before work begins, make sure that the security company is aware of the project and review how the work might trigger a false alarm. Typically, risk comes from dust triggering smoke and fire alarms, which results in an immediate and non-cancellable response from the Fire Department. There are other risks like entry and low temperature alarms.
- 2. If contractors are going to be on-site when owners are not present, they should have clear instructions on how to respond to inadvertent alarms and how to operate the alarm system as needed.
- 3. Security companies should install dust protection over alarms in the primary work areas, as needed.
- 4. The monitoring company should be aware that work is underway, and consideration should be given to preventing immediate notification of emergency responders during work hours. Also consider if notification should be suspended ("test mode") during work hours.
- 5. When work is substantially completed, the security company should re-evaluate the system to check that dust has not built up in smoke alarms and that the alarms are still properly placed in the home to provide the best coverage.

We hope these tips will be helpful as you proceed with your permitted project.



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Ordinance #3 REGULATION OF PRIVATE ALARM SYSTEMS

The Board of Selectmen of Eaton, New Hampshire, ordain as follows: REGULATION OF PRIVATE ALARM SYSTEMS.

- Declaration of purpose: An increasing number of persons have installed individual alarm systems which are connected to a Private Alarm Monitoring Service, and or, a local law enforcement agency. This has resulted in additional services being provided to such persons by local law enforcement agencies, fire department and ambulance personnel and equipment.
- 2. Title: This ordinance shall be known as and may be cited as the "Regulation of Private Alarm Systems Ordinance of Eaton.
- 3. Authority: RSA 47:17.
- 4. False Alarm Charges: The Center Conway and Freedom Fire Departments maintain a record of all False Alarms received from the alarm system of each User. A User shall pay a false alarm charge for each False Alarm from the alarm system that is in excess one (1) False Alarm during any one billing year and pursuant to the following fee schedule.
- 5. Alarm Ordinance Fee Schedule:

First False Alarm – No False Alarm Charge Second False Alarm - \$100.00 Third False Alarm - \$200.00 Fourth and Beyond False Alarms - \$300.00/per response

- 6. Failure to Pay Fees and Charges: If a User fails to pay any fee or charge described in this ordinance, written notice shall be sent to the User requesting payment within thirty (30) days from mailing of the notice. In event legal action is required for collection of payment due, the User shall pay all reasonable attorney's fees and collection costs.
- 7. Appeal Procedure: Any User shall have the right to appeal to the Eaton Board of Selectmen with respect to any matter relating to fees, charges or penalties related to this ordinance. Upon such appeal, the Board of Selectmen may reverse, affirm or modify in any regard any determination with respect to payments due.
- 8. Effective Date: The Eaton Board of Selectmen voted on and adopted the **REGULATION OF PRIVATE ALARM SYSTEMS ORDINANCE** on the 6th day of February, 2018, which shall be the effective date hereof.

Richard H. Young, Edward Reilly, David C. Sorensen *Eaton Board of Selectmen*