

# Pre- to Post- Fire Disaster: Smoke Alarms and Recovery

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## Background

- The American Red Cross (ARC) is a not-for-profit organization that depends on the kindness of the American public to perform its mission.
  - Northeast Ohio Chapter location: 3747 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, OH
- Mission Statement:** ARC prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.
- Northern Ohio Home Fire Campaign:** ARC Home Fire Campaign helps save lives by installing free smoke alarms in homes that don't have them, and by educating people about home fire safety.

## Population

The NE Ohio Chapter of the American Red Cross serves the people living in Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga and Ashtabula counties

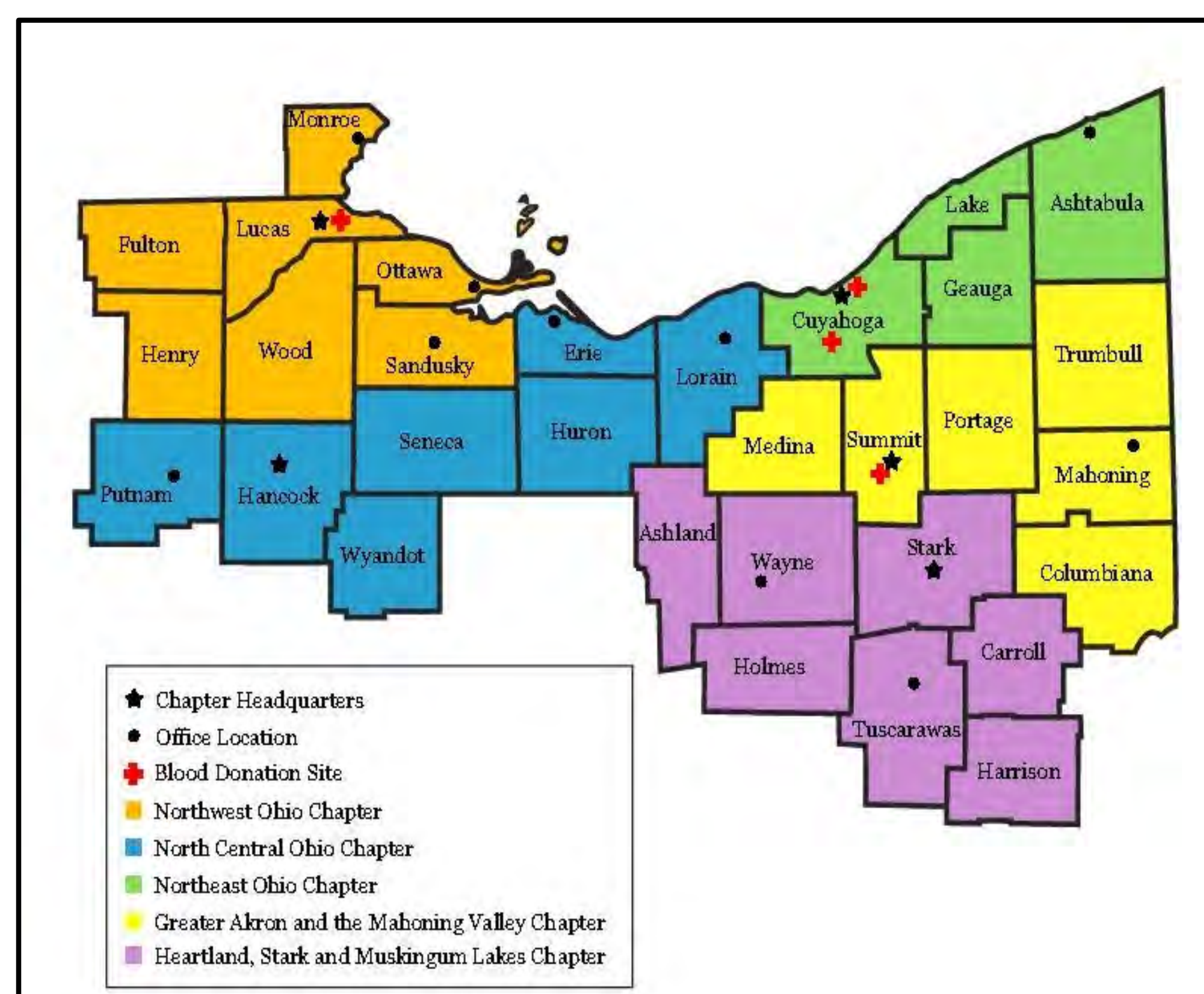


Figure 1: Chapters of the American Red Cross of Northern Ohio | Sourced: <https://nohredcross.org/chapters/>

## Learning Objectives

- Help design and organize smoke alarm installations under the American Red Cross
- Identify roadblocks that are commonly encountered after someone experiences a home fire or other disaster
- Assemble information that is easily digested and understood by the public

# FREE SMOKE ALARMS

DUEL SENSOR ALARMS FOR  
SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE

## WHEN

Saturday, July 22nd  
9 am to 12 noon

## WHERE

Wilder Trailer Park  
10821 Chardon Road  
Chardon, Ohio 44024

## WHO

Smoke alarms provided by the Chardon Township Trustees will be installed by trained American Red Cross volunteers and the Chardon Fire Department to help reduce the number of home fire-related injuries and fatalities.



**PLEASE MAKE SURE AN  
ADULT IS HOME DURING  
THESE HOURS**



**American Red Cross**  
Northern Ohio Region

## FIRE FACTS

### 2 MINUTES

to escape when a  
home fire occurs

### 40% OF DEATHS

in a house fire are  
caused by smoke  
inhalation

### 10 YEARS

is the lifespan of a  
smoke alarm - the  
sensors wear out

## SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

find more information at  
[redcross.org/sound-the-alarm.html](http://redcross.org/sound-the-alarm.html)

## Activites

### Disaster Action Team (DAT)

- Responded to the scene of disasters
- Provided emotional support, financial assistance, and recovery information

### Casework

- Conducted follow-ups and aided in recovery planning services
- Provided internal and external referrals to community resources
- Worked with recovery partners to plan for community recovery needs and long-term recovery activities

## Lessons Learned

- How to communicate with and bring members of the community together to work towards a shared goal
- In times of emergency and disaster, information needs to be concise
- Advocacy is an invaluable tool
- How to install and check smoke alarms to ensure they are in proper working condition

## Public Health Implications

- Raising awareness of fire preparedness will decrease fire related injuries and death
- ARC helps those suffering from a disaster get back on their feet, creating a stronger community
- This smoke alarm flyer will continuously be used and edited to provide information on the next smoke alarm installation event
- The expectations card provides information on how overcome a disaster and work towards rebuilding what was lost

## Deliverables

### Smoke Alarm Installation Flyer

Provides information for a free smoke alarm installation conducted by the Red Cross and partnering organizations.

### Expectations Card

Highlights the important information provided by the Disaster Action Team after a disaster and what the client can expect moving forward.

## Acknowledgements

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