



A few cool   
**Hardware Stores**

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**For Immediate Release**

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**Local Ace Hardware Stores Offer Free Smoke-Alarm Batteries**  
*Consumers can bring in their old 9-volt battery to get one free during National Fire Prevention Week.*

Washington, DC/Baltimore, MD (October 1, 2009) – Some things in life really are free, at least according to this Washington-based retailer. During National Fire Prevention Week (October 4-10), Logan Hardware, Glover Park Hardware, Tenleytown Ace Hardware and 5<sup>th</sup> Street Ace Hardware in Washington and Waverly Ace Hardware and Federal Hill Ace Hardware in Baltimore are encouraging consumers to keep their smoke alarms in good working order by giving away 9-volt alkaline batteries—the smoke-alarm battery of choice—in exchange for old batteries. (Limit: three per customer.)

“Owning a small, neighborhood-focused hardware store allows us to provide specialized services to our customers that may be hard to find elsewhere. We take pride in helping our communities grow, renovate, improve and be safe,” said owner Gina Schaefer.

A working smoke alarm is integral to a proactive and preventative approach to fire safety, and October is a great time to conduct smoke-alarm maintenance in preparation for the winter season; December to February is prime time for home fires and deaths. (Schaefer also recommends testing fire extinguishers, inspecting plugs and wires for damage, and mapping out and practicing a home-evacuation route.) Other good reasons for consumers to test their smoke alarms and replace batteries, according to the National Fire Prevention Association (nfpa.org):

1. Having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half.
2. Almost two-thirds of reported home-fire deaths in 2003 to 2006 resulted from fires in homes with either no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.
3. In more than half of the reported home fires in which smoke alarms were present but did not operate, batteries were either missing or disconnected.

And what happens to the old batteries? They get recycled through the stores’ ongoing recycling program. Consumers can drop off their batteries to any of the location free of charge and without purchase. (Each battery should be placed in an individual plastic bag.) The stores then deliver the used batteries to AERC Recycling Solutions in southern Virginia.

**About us**

The six hardware stores are part of the Ace Hardware co-operative. This means they are independent and locally owned hardware stores that bring essential home-maintenance supplies and expertise to the community as well as some really cool decor and gift ideas, among many other items.

**Washington Locations:**

Glover Park Hardware, 2251 Wisconsin Ave NW, 202-333-6378  
Logan Hardware, 1416 P St NW, 202-265-8900  
Tenleytown Ace Hardware, 4500 Wisconsin Ave NW, 202-364-1902  
5th Street Ace Hardware, 1055 5th Street, NW, 202-682-4570

**Baltimore Locations:**

Waverly Ace Hardware, 601 Homestead St., Baltimore, 443-627-8893  
Federal Hill Ace Hardware, 1214 Light St., Baltimore, 410-244-5910

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