



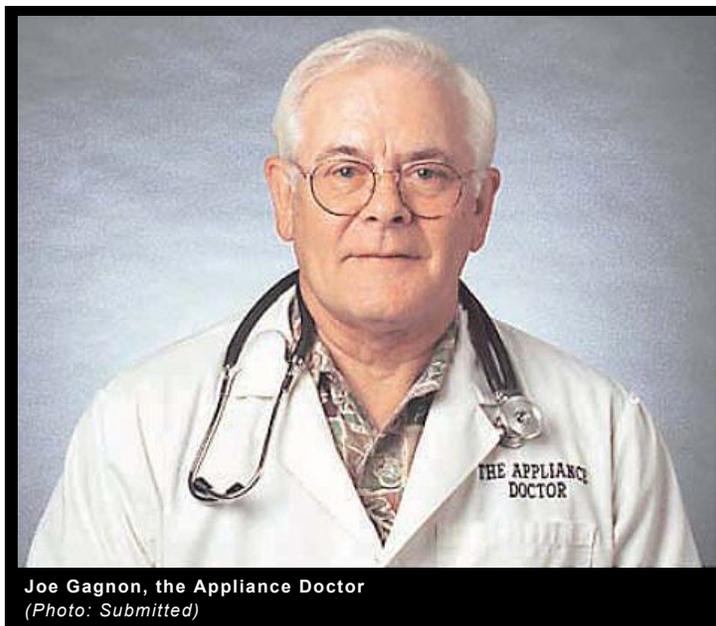
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Some smoke detectors won't react to a smouldering fire

Joe Gagnon The Appliance Doctor 4:13p.m. EST January 27, 2016



Joe Gagnon, the Appliance Doctor
(Photo: Submitted)

A few months ago I stated that I was running out of things in the appliance world to write about so I would mention things of my private life. Well, I must have lied because there are always things that pop up to keep you informed.

Now I'm going to tell you a story just the way it happened and ask you to respond. A few weeks ago a plumber friend in Garden City named Tim Burton woke up in the middle of the night coughing profusely and found the interior of his home filled with smoke. He called the fire department, which arrived in minutes. Firefighters removed the artificial log smoldering in the fireplace. This log is designed to remove the creosol in the chimney and I have always been at odds as to how well it works. This one didn't flame-up and does tell a story in itself.

Tim almost lost his whole family and his home suffered many thousands of dollars in smoke damage. Tim's smoke detectors did not activate even though they had new batteries and were recently tested by him. Tim did some research and found a man in Cincinnati who lost a 20-year-old daughter to a house fire where, again, the smoke detector didn't work. His daughter along with four other college girls all died and his neighbor also lost a college student to a fire in a dorm room because the smoke detector did the same thing. It didn't work!

I interviewed Dean Dennis on my radio show a few weeks ago and he sure woke up this sleeping bear. Through the information he sent me I discovered several television broadcasts all pointing to the smoke detectors as not doing their job. I also found out that Massachusetts, Vermont and Ohio have banned the installation of smoke detectors using ionization. They only permit the kinds using photo electronics. The lawmakers in Australia are passing a bill to ban the sale of the ionization type of detectors across the country. It appears that Michigan is far behind on this hot topic.

Hard to detect

I can say that 90 percent of homes in this county have the wrong smoke detectors installed. I know I do and they are being replaced with the photo electronic type. By the way, the ionization is less costly, but what good are they if they don't work when there is a fire in your

home? Let me tell you why they don't work. There are two plates where the smoke travels through and if the smoke particles are small enough, it will activate but a smoldering fire, such as a cushion or bedding, has large particles and they are too large to be detected. As a result, the smoke may kill you.

What really angers me about this subject is that for years and millions of dollars spent by the American consumer, we have another piece of junk being sold with no less than a UL approval on the product. The man I interviewed on my radio show has made his purpose in life to help others prevent a tragedy like losing a child. I will ask you to contact him on your computer and have him forward the websites where you can learn more on this subject. I know he would be thrilled to hear from you and is most cooperative. His name again is Dean Dennis and his web address is ddennis1111@gmail.com.

As a footnote I must tell you that I am off to Lansing next month to meet with State Representative Gary Glenn to talk about laws pertaining to consumer education on appliance recalls. I have already sent him information on these no-good smoke detectors that cause needless deaths across America and the world. If this state representative can help write laws on these subjects I have offered to be his campaign manager when he runs for governor. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to apldr@twmi.rr.com.

Story extracted 1 February 2016 from:

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Joe Gagnon, The Appliance Doctor, is an active consumer advocate. His "Appliance Doctor Radio Show" has been on the radio for 25 years across the country and he is the author of two books, "First Aid" and "Words & Wisdom of The Appliance Doctor."

www.AskJoeGagnon.com

COMING SOON

Radio Interview with Father's For Fire Safety's Dean Dennis & 'The Appliance Doctor' Joe Gagnon



"The world is a dangerous place to live; not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who do nothing about it."

"All that is required for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

