



## ENGLEWOOD FALSE ALARM REDUCTION PROGRAM ALARM SYSTEMS ORDINANCE 08-08

Nationwide, 98.4% of the time when police are dispatched for an alarm call, it is false. The City of Englewood is no exception. A relatively low number of business and residential addresses generate the vast majority of repeat false alarm calls.

False alarms cost the City of Englewood and its citizens thousands of dollars per year and can take officers away from actual emergencies. To prevent unnecessary emergency response to false alarms, an alarm ordinance was revised to encourage all alarm users to properly use their alarm equipment and maintain its mechanical reliability.

On June 17, 2008 the Englewood City Council approved a revised alarm ordinance. Chapter 08-08, as amended, established business and residential alarm code requirements. Following a competitive procurement process, the City of Englewood selected Alarm Tracking and Billing Services of Colorado Springs, Colorado to administer the Alarm Reduction Program. It would be cost prohibitive for the City of Englewood to build, operate, and maintain a false alarm tracking and billing system. Therefore, the City of Englewood has contracted with this firm, which has expertise in administering false alarm reduction programs. All owners of alarm systems will receive a registration notice on behalf of the City from Alarm Tracking and Billing Services.

**The fee for an Alarm Permit and an Alarm Permit Renewal is set forth below and shall be paid by the alarm user. No refund of a permit fee or permit renewal will be made. Additionally, fees for false alarms will be assessed during each registration period as follows: First false burglar alarm is \$25.00 (waived for completing alarm school online); second false alarm is \$50.00; third false alarm is \$75.00; fourth false alarm is \$100.00; fifth or more false alarm is \$200.00. Each false robbery and panic alarm is \$150.00 each.**

<u>Initial Permit Fee</u>	<u>Renewal Fee</u>
Residential \$20.00	None
Commercial (Under 5,000 Sq. ft) \$50.00	None
Commercial (Over 5,000 Sq. ft) \$100.00	Commercial (Over 5,000 Sq. ft.) \$50.00

Online school and test is available at [www.atbservices.com/englewood](http://www.atbservices.com/englewood)

**Police response to alarms may be suspended after FIVE (5) false alarms within a one year permit period. Reinstatement is permitted for suspended alarm users.**

**There is a \$100 fee if no permit fee has been obtained and a response was made. Your monitoring company must meet the Enhanced Call Verification requirements prior to requesting an alarm dispatch on burglar alarms. Information on this process can be obtained through the below listed contact.**

Your right to appeal shall be provided if you are assessed a fee for which you believe was not a false alarm.

### What Can You Do To Prevent False Alarms?

- Instruct all alarm users on the proper operation of your alarm system
- Secure all windows & doors before activation
- Know and rehearse the process to cancel an accidental alarm
- Notify your alarm company of any changes in responsible parties or problems with your system immediately
- Have your system checked annually by your alarm company

### Some Common Problems That Cause False Alarms:

- Weak alarm system backup batteries
- Open, unlocked, or loose fitting doors and windows
- Helium-filled balloons, wandering pets
- Improper application or installation of motion detectors
- Failure to properly train other users.

For Information Contact:  
Alarm Tracking and Billing Services  
1-800-861-5944  
Fax 719-634-6325  
[www.atbservices.com/englewood](http://www.atbservices.com/englewood)