



North Liberty Fire Department

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Introduction of Temporary Residential Home Box

The North Liberty Fire Department is proud to introduce a new program for the residents of North Liberty, Penn & Madison Township. The Temporary Residential Knox HomeBox program provides a secured means of access in case of an emergency. HomeBox key boxes are safe, secure, and UL tested.

These boxes are a short-term answer for residents living at home who may need medical assistance from time to time. Imagine if you were hurt and/or unable to get to your locked door while the ambulance was coming. Once the ambulance crew arrived at your house the crew would try to find an unlocked door or window to make entry. If the crew is unable to find an easy way in, the next option is forcible entry through your door or window. Occasionally doors and other parts around the door are damaged and require replacement. Sometimes these repairs can be costly. However, this could have been avoided if a HomeBox was in place.

What is a HomeBox? A HomeBox is a secured key box containing your house key. These key boxes can be temporarily hung on your door with the attached over the door hanger. Home Boxes are keyed for a special key carried only by the Fire Department. The key is electronically locked in the fire apparatus and is released by a unique code assigned to the fire officer accessing the key. These keys are only released in the case of an emergency or if no key holder is immediately available. Use of a HomeBox avoids forced entry and any property damage. When a HomeBox is opened by a crew member, they can then use your key, to open your door, to help you. Afterwards, prior to leaving your residence, your house key is then re-secured into the HomeBox. (This also eliminates revealing your hidden key location to others).

The Temporary Residential HomeBox program was designed to help those residents still living independently at home. The Fire Department does not want to cause you any more hardships or unnecessary repair bills. The Temporary Residential HomeBox program allows you to use a HomeBox free of charge for up to one year. Supplies are limited in this program and may go fast. A waiting list may be created as the need arises. The Fire Department offers one as a temporary service from the city. Having a HomeBox at your residence will provide you and your family with peace of mind in the event of an emergency. Some terms and conditions apply for enrollment.

The Fire Department would be happy to assist those residents looking for a permanent Residential HomeBox. Knox Company has two different product lines, the Knox HomeBox (1500 Series) and Residential Box (1650 Series). These boxes can be permanently mounted or recessed at your residence. These models range in cost from \$231 to \$440 plus shipping and handling. Orders can be made online through [website](#).

To apply for the Temporary Residential Home Box program, email completed application form to Fire Marshal Bryan Hardin at bhardin@northlibertyiowa.org. Additional information is also available through Knox Box Residential website or from the Fire Department at www.nlfire.org.