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Borough of Little Ferry

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**REQUIREMENTS ON LOCATION OF SMOKE DETECTOR
AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR INSTLLATION IN ONE AND TWO FAMILY
DWELLINGS
N.J.A.C.5:18-4.19**

1. SMOKE DETECTORS SHALL BE LOCATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NFPA AND MAINTAINED IN WORKING ORDER.
2. SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS SHALL BE INSTALLED AS FOLLOWS:
 - ON EACH LEVEL OF THE PREMISES (INCLUDING BASEMENT).
 - OUTSIDE OF EACH SEPARATE SLEEPING AREA.
3. SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS MAY BE BATTERY POWERED AND SHALL BE LISTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANSI/UL 217. A/C POWERED SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORES SHALL BE ACCEPTED AS MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.
4. SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS INSTALLED IN BASEMENT SHALL BE LOCATED IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE STAIRWAY LEADING TO FLOOR ABOVE.
5. SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS INSTALLED IN ROOMS WITH SLOPED CEILINGS SHALL BE LOCATED AT HIGH SIDE OF ROOM.
6. SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS INSTALLED IN HALLWAYS SHALL BE LOCATED SO SOMKE RISING IN THE STAIRWELL CANNOT BE PREVENTED FROM REACHING THE DETECTOR BY AN INTERVENING DOOR OR OBSTRUCTION.

SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS ARE NOT REQUIRED IN CRAWL SPACES OR IN UNFINISHED ATTIC SPACES.

WHERE TO LOCATE DETECTORS:

Detectors are to be located on every level of a residence, (basement, first floor, second floor) excluding crawl spaces and unfinished attics, and in every separate sleeping area, between sleeping areas and living areas such as the kitchen, garage, basement or utility room. In homes with only one sleeping area on one floor, a detector is to be placed in the hallway outside the bedrooms as shown in Figure 1. In single floor homes with two separate sleeping areas, two detectors are required, outside each sleeping area as shown in Figure 2. In multi-level homes, detectors are to be located outside sleeping areas and at every finished level of the homes as shown in Figure 3. Basement level detectors are to be located in close proximity to the bottom of basement stairwells as shown in Figure 4.

WHERE NOT TO LOCATE DETECTORS:

To avoid false alarms and/or improper operation, avoid installation of smoke detectors in the following areas.

Kitchens-smoke from cooking may cause a nuisance alarm.

Bathrooms-excessive steam from a shower may cause a nuisance alarm.

Heat forced air ducts-used for heating or air-movement may prevent smoke from reaching detector.

The 4-inch "Dead Air" space where the ceiling meets the wall, as shown in Figure 5.

The peak of an "A" frame type of ceiling-"Dead Air" at the top may prevent smoke from reaching detector

FURTHER INFORMATION ON DETECTOR PLACEMENT:

For further information about smoke detector placement consult the National Protection Association's Standard No. 74-1984, titled "Household Fire Warning Equipment". For Carbon Monoxide alarms, their publication is Recommended Practice #720. These publications may be obtained by writing to the Publication Sales Department National Fire Protection Association, Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269.

Carbon Monoxide alarms are to be located in every separate sleeping area per NFPA 720 and manufacturer's recommendations

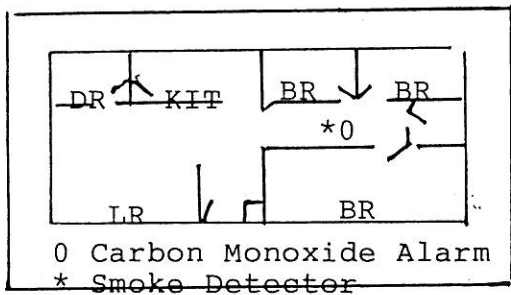


Figure 1

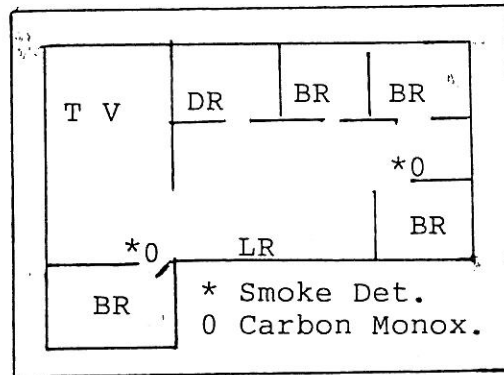


Figure 2

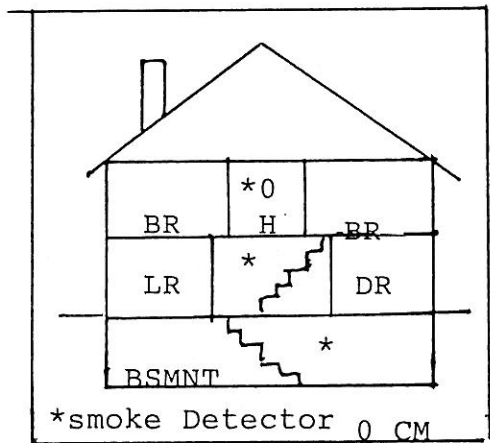


Figure 3

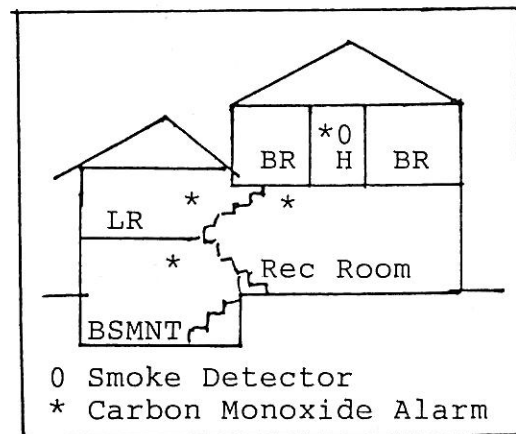


Figure 4

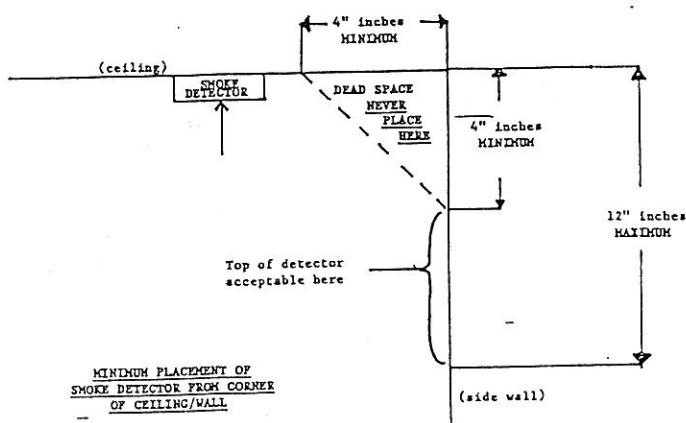


Figure 5



The Threat of Carbon Monoxide

Carbon Monoxide: Deadly but Silent

Few poisons are as lethal as CO (carbon monoxide) or strike more secretly. Because you can't taste it, smell it or see it, CO can affect you before you realize it. Most victims are overcome while they are sleeping. People poisoned at low levels by CO often mistake the early symptoms of headaches, dizziness, and nausea for the initial signs of the flu or cold.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that exposure to CO from sources inside the home accounts for approximately 250 deaths a year; while another 5,000 individuals are poisoned seriously enough to require medical attention. According to the American Medical Association, there are at least 750 unintentional deaths both inside and outside the home from CO exposure each year.

Carbon monoxide is absorbed through the lungs and inhibits the blood's capacity to transport oxygen through the body which can eventually lead to brain damage. Within minutes, at higher concentration levels, CO poisoning can be fatal. While everybody is at risk, unborn babies, infants, senior citizens, and people with coronary or respiratory problems are most susceptible. If the victim is pregnant, CO poisoning can harm the fetus.

The Carbon Monoxide in Your Home

Carbon monoxide is produced when fuels such as natural gas, propane, heating oil, kerosene, coal charcoal, gasoline, or wood burn with insufficient air. It is also present in tobacco smoke. Homes with a fuel-fired furnace or space heater, a wood stove, a fireplace, an attached garage, gas appliances, and gas water heaters are especially vulnerable. In these energy-conscious times we all want to save by weatherproofing our homes. But if your house is tightly sealed against the elements, CO polluted air becomes trapped more easily, increasing your exposure to the danger of poisoning.



Bergen County
Department of Health Services
327 Ridgewood Avenue
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An Ounce of Prevention

Here are some steps you can take to protect yourself and your family:

- Have home furnaces and heating systems professionally inspected annually
- Have the chimney and flue cleaned professionally
- Open flues when fireplaces are in use
- Use proper fuel in kerosene space heaters
- Make sure burner flames on furnaces and stoves are blue - not yellow-orange
- Ensure that appliances such as gas dryers are properly vented
- Never run an automobile in an attached garage or a gas engine in any enclosed space
- Discourage or prohibit smoking indoors
- Consider installing a carbon monoxide detector that meets the amended UL (Underwriters Laboratories) standard 2034, effective October 1, 1995.

(Underwriters Laboratories has set a standard (UL 2034) that calls for a detector to sound the alarm before a person would experience a blood concentration of 10% carboxyhemoglobin. Cigarette smoking typically causes a level of about 9%.)

If you suffer from dizziness, nausea, fatigue, and headaches while you are home and feel better when you go out you may have CO poisoning. See a doctor and get a carboxyhemoglobin test to determine the percentage of carbon monoxide in your blood.

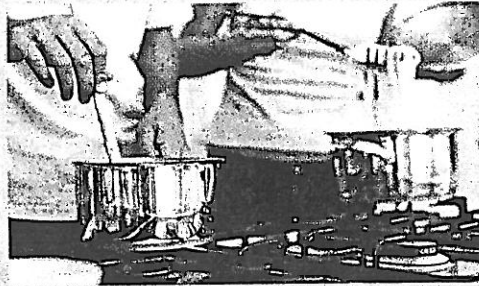
If you would like more information, there are several consumer hotlines established to address CO questions:

- The American Sensors' *Healthy Home* Hotline (800/387-4219)
- Local chapters of the American Lung Association (800/LUNG-USA)
- The Consumer Product Safety Commission (800/638-CPSC)

Information provided by American Sensors, the American Lung Association,
and the National Association of Counties

Keep your family safe from carbon monoxide

Carbon monoxide (CO), a colorless, odorless gas, is a by-product of incomplete burning of fuel materials such as oil, gas and wood. A tiny molecule, carbon monoxide can be very dangerous — carbon monoxide is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in America.



CO enters the body primarily through the lungs while breathing. When CO enters the bloodstream, it takes the place of oxygen, preventing it from reaching the heart, brain and all of the other systems in the body that depend on oxygen to carry out their functions. Depending on the concentration of CO, reactions to exposure can vary, from minor headaches to dizziness, nausea, even convulsions.

How does carbon monoxide find its way into our homes? CO is commonly released from poorly maintained, incorrectly installed or faulty appliances such as boilers, oil burners, gas stoves, and water heaters. While these may be more common in older homes, this dangerous gas is often found in new homes as well.

CO poisoning prevention checklist

- Have at least one CO alarm with an audible warning signal installed on every level of your home and in sleeping areas
- Ensure that fossil fuel-burning devices are properly installed and working
- Have your home heating system and chimney inspected and cleaned by a qualified technician every year
- Do not burn charcoal inside your house, even in the fireplace
- Do not use gas grills in confined areas, even in your basement or garage
- Have gas fireplaces inspected each autumn to ensure the pilot light burns safely
- Keep chimneys clear of bird and squirrel nests, leaves and residue to ensure proper venting
- Do not operate gasoline powered engines (e.g. generators) in confined areas such as garages or basements; and never leave your vehicle, mower or other gasoline-powered equipment running in an attached garage — even with the door open
- Do not block or seal shut exhaust flues or ducts for appliances such as water heaters, ranges and clothes dryers
- Do not use ovens, household appliances or alternative energy sources that run on fossil fuel for heating purposes

Safeguarding your home

There are steps that you can take to help protect your family from the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning. Install an inexpensive and widely available carbon monoxide alarm on every floor of your home and in sleeping areas.

Make sure that your appliances, especially water heaters, furnaces and gas stoves are installed properly, and have them inspected by a qualified technician annually. See the box below for more tips on keeping your household safe.

Don't forget about fire safety

While inspecting your home, take an extra moment to make sure that there is a working smoke alarm on each floor and in sleeping areas, and that fire extinguishers are available throughout the house, ideally within 40 feet from any location in the house. Many local fire departments offer annual fire safety inspections at no charge. Finally, make sure your family has a fire escape plan. For more information about protecting your home from fire and developing an escape plan, visit www.nfpa.org. ○



**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
MEMORANDUM**

TO: ALL LOCAL ENFORCING AGENCIES

FROM: LOUIS KILMER, CHIEF-BUREAU OF FIRE CODE ENFORCERMENT.

SUBJECT: REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRE EXTINGUISHERS IN ONE AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS

DATE: NOVEMBER 15, 2005

The Legislature amended and enacted P.L. 1991, c. 92 (C.52: 27D-198.1), requiring that all one and two-family dwellings at a change of occupancy be provided with a portable fire extinguisher, in addition to the requirements for smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. This provision does not apply to seasonal rental units. This act was signed into law on April 14, 2005 with an effective date of November 1, 2005.

The regulations were recently made available for public comment. The comment period has ended and the final adoption of the regulations will appear in the New Jersey Register in the near future. The Division of Fire Safety is advising all local enforcing agencies to enforce the regulations; using the guidelines below.

The requirements for the type and placement of the extinguishers are as follows.

- 1) At least one portable fire extinguisher shall be installed in all one and two-family dwellings (except seasonal rental units) upon change of occupancy.
- 2) The extinguisher shall be listed, labeled, charged, and operable.
- 3) The size shall be no smaller than 2A: 10B:C, rated for residential use and weigh no more than 10lbs.
- 4) The hangers or brackets supplied by the manufacturer must be used.
- 5) The extinguisher must be located within 10 feet of the kitchen.
- 6) The top of the extinguisher must not be more than 5 feet above the floor.
- 7) The extinguisher must be visible and in a readily accessible location, free from being blocked by furniture, storage, or other items.
- 8) The extinguisher must be near a room exit or travel path that provides an escape route to the exterior.
- 9) The extinguisher must be accompanied by an owner's manual or written information regarding the operation, inspection, and maintenance of the extinguisher; and
- 10) Lastly, the extinguisher must be installed with the operating instructions clearly visible.

New fire extinguishers are not required to be serviced and tagged; as long as the seller or agent can provide proof of purchase receipt.

Until the proposed regulations have been adopted, the statute should be cited for enforcement purposes. The correct citation is N.J.S.A. 52:27D-198.1.

If you have any questions regarding the implementation of this of this act or its specific requirements, please contact our Local Assistance Unit at 609-633-6112.