



City of Brockton Fire Department

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Effective March 31, 2006 Carbon Monoxide Detectors will be required in most residential occupancies.

Please refer to the following links:

Carbon Monoxide Detector Regulation 527 CMR 31
<http://www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/fireprevention/cmr/index.htm>

Carbon Monoxide Fire Safety Flyer
http://www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/pubed/flyers/carbon_monoxide_ff.pdf

Fire Marshals Press Release
http://www.mass.gov/dfs/news_events/press/20060202_new_carbon_monox_reg_s.pdf

Consumer Guide to Massachusetts Requirements for Carbon Monoxide Alarms
http://www.mass.gov/dfs/osfm/pubed/flyers/carbon_monoxide_safety_guide.pdf

Carbon Monoxide Regulations for Direct Vent Gas Appliances
<http://www.mass.gov/dpl/boards/pl/cmr/24805.htm#5.08>

Frequently Asked Question:

Q Does my residence require Carbon Monoxide Detectors?

A Effective March 31, 2006 every Residential Structure that presently or in the future contains Fossil Fuel Burning Equipment or has enclosed parking shall be equipped, by the owner, landlord or superintendent, with working and Listed Carbon Monoxide Alarm Protection.



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Q Are there any exceptions to this rule?

A There are three exceptions:

1. If the building is owned by a state agency, a housing authority. (they have until January 1, 2007 to comply)
2. If there is no fossil fuel burning equipment in the building and no attached garage.
3. If the owner of the building opt to take an alternative compliance option. (see regulations)

Q Where in the residence should Carbon Monoxide Detectors be placed?

A There should be a Carbon Monoxide detector on every habitable level of the residence. A detector should be in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom but can be no further away than 10 feet from a bedroom door. This means some levels may require more than one detector. It should be noted that if there is a direct vent gas appliance in the residence, the requirements of the gas code must also be met.

Q How do you define a habitable level?

A The regulation defines habitable as any portion of a cellar, basement or attic that is designed, used and furnished for living purposes.

Q Where should a detector be placed – on the wall or on the ceiling?

A The manufactures specifications and directions should be followed. Please see the literature that came with the detector?

Q What kind of detector do I need to use?

A There are five options:



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- (1) Battery powered in compliance with NFPA 720, 5.2.3 and wireless appliances
- (2) Ac (alternating current) plug-in with battery back up in accordance with NFPA 720, 5.2.2.6
- (3) An ac primary power source with battery back up in compliance with NFPA 2/2/06 720, 5.2.2
- (4) Low voltage or wireless systems in compliance with NFPA 720, 5.2.4
- (5), a Combination Appliance

Q Can I use a combination smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector?

A Caution should be used. The combination detectors sold today are ionization. Ionization smoke detectors have limitations where they may be placed.