

## PLACEMENT OF SMOKE AND CO ALARMS

- Ceiling mounted: at least 4 inches from any adjoining wall surface.
- Wall mounted: Between 4 and 12 inches from the ceiling.
- Peaked or sloped ceilings: Within 36 in. of the peak or high side of the slope, but no closer than 4 inches vertically or from an adjoining wall surface.
- Detectors shall not be installed within 36 inches of heating or cooling register, the tip of a ceiling paddle fan, a kitchen door or a bathroom door containing a tub or shower.
- Detectors within 20 foot horizontal path of a cooking appliance shall be equipped with an alarm-silencing means or be of the photo-electric type.
- Where stairs lead to other occupied level a smoke alarm or smoke detector shall be located so that smoke rising in the stairway cannot be prevented from reaching the smoke alarm or smoke detector by an intervening door or obstruction.
- For stairways leading up from a basement smoke alarms or smoke detectors shall be located on the basement ceiling within two-feet of the entry to the stairs.
- Smoke alarms should be placed near the first bedroom door in a hallway closest to the living area.
- Carbon Monoxide detectors shall be installed as per manufacturer's recommendations outside each sleeping area.

## PLACEMENT OF SMOKE AND CO DETECTORS

### NEW

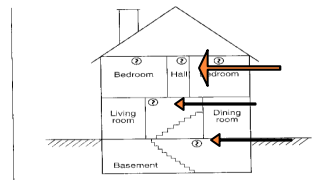


FIGURE A.11.5.1(d) A Smoke Alarm Should Be Located Each Level in Addition to Each Bedroom.

### EXISTING

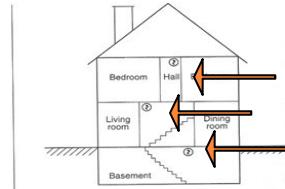


FIGURE A.11.5.1(d) A Smoke Alarm Should Be Located Each Level in Addition to Each Bedroom.

### EXISTING



FIGURE A.11.5.1(b) A Smoke Alarm Should Be Located Be-

### NEW



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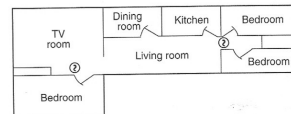


FIGURE A.11.5.1(c) In Dwelling Units with More Than One Sleeping Area, a Smoke Alarm Should Be Provided to Protect

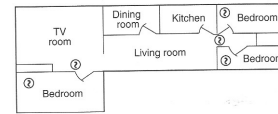


FIGURE A.11.5.1(c) In Dwelling Units with More Than One Sleeping Area, a Smoke Alarm Should Be Provided to Protect

**PLEASE NOTE: ANY PLACEMENT OF SMOKE & CO DETECTORS SHOULD BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LANGUAGE SPECIFIED IN THIS DOCUMENT, THE MANUFACTURERS GUIDELINES AND NOT THE LANGUAGE UNDER THE ILLUSTRATIONS ABOVE**

Fire Marshal's Web Site  
<http://fire-marshal.ri.gov>

Fire Safety Code Web Site  
[www.fsc.ri.gov](http://www.fsc.ri.gov)

REFERENCES  
Rhode Island Fire Safety Code  
NFPA 1 2012 Edition  
NFPA 101 2012 Edition  
NFPA 72 2010 Edition;  
NFPA 720 2012 Edition

# RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL



One and Two Family Smoke  
and  
Carbon Monoxide Alarms  
Brochure (effective 1/16/2013)

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STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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## ONE AND TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS

### \* Homes built in 1976 or prior:

- Smoke Alarms shall be installed outside sleeping areas and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements)
- Smoke Alarms shall be permitted to be battery operated
- Smoke Alarms are not required to be interconnected
- CO Detectors shall be installed outside sleeping areas
- CO detectors shall be permitted to be battery operated
- CO Detectors are not required to be interconnected

### • Homes built on or after January 1, 1977 thru December 31, 2001:

- Smoke Alarms shall be installed outside sleeping areas and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements)
- Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup
- Smoke Alarms shall be required to be interconnected
- CO Detectors shall be installed outside sleeping areas
- CO Detectors shall be permitted to be battery operated
- CO Detectors are not required to be interconnected

### • Homes built on or after January 1, 2002 thru February 19, 2004:

- Smoke Alarms shall be installed outside sleeping areas and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements)
- Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup
- Smoke Alarms shall be required to be interconnected
- CO Detectors shall be installed outside sleeping areas
- CO Detectors shall be hard-wired with battery backup
- CO Detectors shall be required to be interconnected

### • Homes built on or after February 20, 2004 thru December 31, 2012:

- Smoke Alarms shall be installed inside each bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements) (In accordance with NFPA 72 (2002 Edition)
- Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup
- Smoke Alarms shall be interconnected

## ONE AND TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS (continued)

### • Homes built on or after February 20, 2004 thru December 31, 2012: (continued)

- CO Detectors shall be installed outside each sleeping area and on each level of the dwelling unit including basements
- CO Detectors shall be hard-wired with battery backup
- CO Detectors shall be required to be interconnected

### • Homes built on or after January 1, 2013:

- Smoke Alarms shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72 (2010 Edition)
- CO Detectors shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 720 (2012 Edition)

- Where the above provisions require both smoke and carbon monoxide detections, combination devices shall be permitted and deemed to be acceptable.

- Where smoke alarms are required, household fire alarm systems, in accordance with NFPA 72 (2010 Edition), shall be permitted.

- In addition, the local authority having jurisdiction may require additional smoke or CO coverage in rooms or living areas having pull out sofas or other means of sleeping arrangements if in his/her judgment the room may be used for sleeping quarters on a regular or intermittent basis.

- **Exception:** Dwellings that do not contain any fuel burning appliances, a fireplace, or an attached garage or integrated garage are exempt from CO requirements. If any of these items are introduced later, then detection is required.

- Wireless detectors shall be allowed as part of an approved system or panel and provided that such system meets all the audible requirements and as well as meeting all hardwired electrical requirements.

## OTHER FACTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- All detectors and devices shall be installed according to manufacturer's recommendations.
- Smoke alarms **SHALL NOT** remain in service longer than **10** years from the date of manufacturing unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer.
- Carbon Monoxide detectors **SHALL NOT** remain in service no longer than **7** years from the date of manufacturing unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer.
- It shall be the responsibility of the owner to maintain in operable condition smoke and carbon monoxide detection systems.
- The owner shall make operable within seven (7) days after being notified by certified mail by the occupant and/or enforcement official, any inoperable system.
- The cost of the initial inspection is \$30.00 shall be borne by the seller. Any subsequent inspections on the same property are \$60.00 per visit.
- Owners of existing residential properties, previously required to install smoke detectors, shall maintain those detectors in good operable condition.
- The above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors may be installed as either separate or combination units approved by the AHJ.
- The fire department for the community in which the dwelling is located should inspect the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors systems of the dwelling within ten (10) days of a request from the owner.
- Once received, smoke alarms and CO certificates are good for **120** days.
- It is recommended that you have your inspection scheduled at least 2-weeks before your closing to allow time for any necessary corrections.