City of Brooklyn Center
Building & Community Standards
6301 Shingle Creek Pkwy, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430-2199

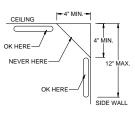
Ph: (763)569-3330 TTY 711 Fax: (763)569-3360

www.brooklyncentermn.gov

# Guidelines for Placement of Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

# **Smoke Alarms**

- All smoke alarms shall be listed and installed in accordance with the provisions of the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) 72 and shall conform to the latest UL standards.
- Hard wired smoke alarms shall be installed in all newly constructed residential homes.
- Install smoke alarms per manufacturer's recommendation.
- Check the date on your smoke alarms to determine how old they are. The NFPA recommends replacing alarms every ten (10) years.
- Check your alarms every month and replace batteries every year.



## **Carbon Monoxide Alarms**

- Carbon monoxide (CO) is a toxic, colorless, odorless gas that is formed as a incomplete combustion of carbon or a carbon compound.
- Poisoning is caused by inhalation of CO. There are many symptoms for CO poisoning including headache, nausea, confusion and shortness of breath.
- State law (299F.50 & 299F.51) requires CO detectors be placed in every dwelling unit
- Code requirements can be found at www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/299F.51

#### Alterations, Repairs or Additions in Accordance with 2012 IRCR 314.3.1

- When alterations, repairs or additions requiring a permit occur, or when sleeping room(s) are added or created in an existing dwelling, it shall be equipped with smoke alarms located as required for new dwellings.
- The smoke alarms shall be hard wired except when alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of walls or ceilings exposing the structure, unless there is an attic or basement available which could provide access for hard wiring.

# **Rental Properties**

- Brooklyn Center City Ordinances (Section 5-203) requires that smoke detectors be installed in all rental properties. They shall be located in each sleeping room, outside of each separate sleeping area in the vicinity of the bedrooms and on each level.
- It is the responsibility of the property owner or its agent to keep records indicating compliance with testing and applicable codes.

### Location

The State Building Code states that smoke alarms and CO alarms must be located:

- In each sleeping room-smoke alarms only
- Outside each sleeping room in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms-smoke alarm and CO larm.
- On each story including basements, but excluding crawl spaces and uninhabitable atticssmoke alarms only.



Working smoke alarms are essential, but they do not save lives unless everyone knows how to get out of the house safely. The peak time for residential fires is between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Make sure everyone knows how to escape when the alarm sounds, whether awake or sleeping at the time. Plan two ways out of each room and a prearranged meeting place outside.