



CONSUMER'S GUIDE TO ILLINOIS REQUIREMENTS FOR CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

The Carbon Monoxide Detector Act, HB 5284, has been signed by the Governor of Illinois. Effective January 1, 2007, **the law specifically requires** "...that every dwelling unit be equipped with at least one approved carbon monoxide alarm in an operating condition within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping purposes." **This law provides important new protection in addition to the existing requirements for smoke alarms.**

Who Is Impacted by this Law?

Generally speaking, anyone who owns residential property regardless of size (i.e., one & two family homes, multifamily buildings, apartments, condominiums and townhouses, etc.). There are exemptions for buildings which do not use fossil fuel burning equipment, are not connected to a garage, or are not close to any potential carbon monoxide source. The local building commissioner must determine exemptions.

Violation... "Willful failure to install or maintain in operating condition any carbon monoxide alarm required by this Act is a Class B misdemeanor."

What Do I Have to Do?

Install CO alarms within fifteen (15) feet of every room used for sleeping purposes, for example in the hallway outside the bedrooms. Homeowners should contact their electrical contractor for assistance, particularly if they want to replace older smoke alarms along with adding the new CO protection.

What Kinds of CO Alarms Are Allowed?

All CO alarms must bear the label of a nationally recognized testing laboratory and conform to the latest Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards (also known as UL2034 Standards) or those of the Canadian Standards Association. Alarms must have battery back-up or be battery operated.

They can be:

- Hard wired into the structure's AC power line with secondary battery back-up
- Direct plug-in with battery back-up, or
- Battery powered

One easy way to meet requirements for smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms is to use a combination alarm, such as the FireX® 12000. The law allows such units, stating "...the carbon monoxide alarm may be combined with smoke detecting devices provided that the combined unit complies with the respective provisions of the administrative code, reference standards, and departmental rules relating to both smoke detecting devices and carbon monoxide alarms and provided that the combined unit emits an alarm in a manner that clearly differentiates the hazard."

What Am I Required to Do if I'm a Landlord?

The owner of a multifamily dwelling unit is required to supply and install carbon monoxide alarms within fifteen (15) feet of each room used for sleeping. The owner must also provide written information on testing and maintenance. The tenant must test and provide general maintenance, including replacement batteries, and notify the owner if there is a problem the tenant cannot correct.

Where Do I Have to Put These CO Alarms?

Alarms must be installed within fifteen (15) feet of each room used for sleeping purposes.

For Information Regarding the New Legislation, Contact:

Illinois State Fire Marshal
1035 Stevenson Drive
Springfield, IL 62703
217-785-0969
217-782-1062 fax
info@sfm.state.il.us

For Product Information and Availability Contact:

1-800-951-5526

Options for Smoke, Carbon Monoxide (CO) and Combination Smoke/CO alarms.

Illinois requires smoke alarms be installed on every level, including basements. Attics require alarms only if they are habitable. The alarms should be installed within fifteen (15) feet of sleeping areas. In the case of new construction or substantial remodeling, these should be hard wired and interconnected so that when one sounds, they all sound. Note that local codes may contain additional requirements.

I have existing smoke alarms but wish to replace and upgrade.

12000 - **Combination Smoke and CO Alarm** – AC/DC Direct Wire with Battery Back-up

12200 - **Combination Smoke and CO Alarm** – DC Battery only

10000 - **Carbon Monoxide Alarm** – AC/DC Direct Wire with Battery Back-up

10200 - **Carbon Monoxide Alarm** – DC Battery only

6030 - **Carbon Monoxide Alarm** – Plug-in 120V AC

Invensys Controls is at the forefront of developing FireX® carbon monoxide (CO) and Smoke/carbon monoxide alarms to meet the evolving legislation. Our new 10000 series carbon monoxide alarm and 12000 series combination smoke/CO alarm feature the latest in carbon monoxide detection capabilities. Each unit incorporates our new Monox® Superior CO Sensing Technology.

Only Monox Alarms offer Triple Protection:

- **Monox with the True-Test™ CO Sensor:** Only Monox alarms feature an exclusive sensor technology which verifies that the CO sensor is working properly.
- **Monox performs an Automatic Monthly Self-Test:** Only Monox alarms perform a silent internal system test to verify CO sensor operation.
- **Monox has a True End of Life replacement alert:** The alarm will alert you when the CO sensor has reached its end of life, telling you it is time to replace your CO alarm.

The FireX 10000 series, 12000 series, and 6030 alarms are listed to UL 2034 and meet NFPA 72 requirements. The FireX 12000 smoke/carbon monoxide alarm features advanced commissioning tests when used in an interconnected system. When connected to other FireX smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, a simple press of the test button on the FireX 12000 first verifies operation of the 12000 itself and then it will automatically test the other connected smoke alarms. After a brief pause, the unit tests all interconnected carbon monoxide alarms. This makes verification of all interconnected alarms faster and more convenient.

“The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends replacing your smoke alarms every ten (10) years.”

Invensys®

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