



CONSUMER'S GUIDE TO MINNESOTA REQUIREMENTS FOR CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

The 2006 legislature session passed a new carbon monoxide (CO) law (MN 299F.50) requiring CO alarms in all single family homes and multifamily dwelling units. Effective January 1, 2007 all newly constructed single family homes and multifamily dwelling units for which building permits were issued on or after January 1, 2007 shall be provided with approved CO alarms. Effective August 1, 2008 all existing single family homes shall be equipped with approved CO alarms. Effective August 1, 2009 all other multifamily or apartment dwelling units shall be provided with approved CO alarms.

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.) must comply. Starting in 2007, new homes and apartments in Minnesota will need to have alarms within ten (10) feet of each bedroom. Owners of existing homes must comply by August 2008, and owners of existing apartment buildings by August 2009.

Certain multifamily dwelling may be exempted if they provide constant monitoring of centrally located equipment that may produce carbon monoxide or if the commissioner of public safety agrees there is "no foreseeable carbon monoxide risk." Buildings owned by the State of Minnesota are also exempt.

What Do I Have to Do?

Install CO alarms within ten feet of each room lawfully used for sleeping, 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 be certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory and conform to the latest Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards for carbon monoxide alarms, (also known as UL Standard 2034).

These can be:

- Hard wired into the electrical wiring
- Directly plugged into an electrical outlet without a switch, or
- Battery powered, attached to the wall of the dwelling

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 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 multifamily dwelling unit is required to supply and install one or more approved carbon monoxide alarms within ten feet of each room lawfully used for sleeping. The Owner of multifamily dwelling unit is also required to replace stolen, removed, found missing or rendered inoperable alarms during a prior occupancy of the dwelling unit. Occupants must keep and maintain the devices in good repair.

Where Do I Have to Put These CO Alarms?

CO alarms must be placed within ten (10) feet of each room lawfully used for sleeping purposes.

For Information Regarding the New Legislation, Contact:

Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division
444 Cedar Street, Suite 145
St. Paul, MN 55101-5145
651-201-7200
<http://www.dps.state.mn.us>

For Product Information and Availability Contact:

1-800-951-5526

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

Note that every dwelling and dwelling unit is required to have a smoke alarm or detector. The exact requirements vary depending on when the home was built. Since March 31, 2003, newly constructed homes must have smoke alarms hard wired with battery back-up and interconnected. They must be installed in every sleeping room and in a centrally located area near each separate sleeping area. Local building codes may have additional requirements. Requirements for CO alarms are in addition to the requirements for smoke alarms.

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®

Controls Americas

191 E. North Avenue
Carol Stream, IL 60188
1.800.951.5526
www.invensyscontrols.com

This document is provided for information only, and is not intended to give legal advice. Please consult your advisors if you have specific questions related to this, or any other law.

Invensys, FireX, Monox, and True-Test are trademarks of Invensys plc., its subsidiaries or affiliated companies. All other brands mentioned in this report may be the trademarks of their respective owners.