Cronomer Valley Fire Department

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms Handout

The information in this handout provides general guidelines for the installation requirements of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms per NYS Building Code. Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are required to be installed in dwelling units as well as commercial occupancies when building and safety permits are issued. Any battery powered detectors sold or installed after 2020 must have a sealed 10 year battery. These devices are important fire and life safety features in your home, potentially saving lives in the event of a fire or carbon monoxide release.

Smoke alarms requirements (Sect 220 of NYS Fire Code)

Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations:

- 1. In each sleeping room.
- 2. Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms.
- 3. On each additional story of the dwelling, including basements and habitable attics.
- 4. Smoke alarms shall be installed not less than 3 feet horizontally from the door or opening of a bathroom that contains a bathtub or shower unless this would prevent placement of a smoke alarm required by this section.
- 5. Ionization Smoke alarms no less than 20 feet from kitchen burning appliance

Carbon monoxide requirements (Sect 915 NYS Building Code)

Carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in the following locations:

- 1. Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms.
- 2. On every occupiable level of a dwelling unit, including basements.
- 3. Where a fuel-burning appliance is located within a bedroom or its attached bathroom, a carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed within the bedroom.
- 4. In commercial occupancies that have petroleum or gas fired appliances or stoves or that have attached garage as a source of carbon monoxide

Test these devices on a regular basis. Know what they sound like for an alarm vs. low battery! Replace 10 years after date of manufacture. Special rules apply for multiple occupancies and dormitories. Check with your local building department.

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