

Smoke detectors and Carbon monoxide detectors



Building Inspections

The Minnesota State Building Code and Richfield City Code provide minimum standards for creating an environment of health and safety for all Richfield residents.

Smoke Detector Requirements

Smoke detector installation is required throughout all homes when interior alterations, repairs, or additions requiring a permit occur, or when one or more sleeping rooms are added or created.

Smoke detectors alarm devices shall be interconnected in such a manner that the actuation of one alarm will activate all of the alarms in an individual unit.

Smoke detectors in existing areas may be battery powered only where the alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure unless there is an attic, crawl space, or basement available which could provide access for hard wiring and interconnection without the removal of interior finishes.

Smoke detectors are required:

- In each sleeping room (bedroom).
- Outside of each separate sleeping room within the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms.
- On each additional story of the dwelling, including basements but not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics.

Smoke detectors shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 217 and with the provisions of fire warning equipment provisions of NFPA 72. Smoke detectors shall be installed per manufacturer's specifications in each of these locations, even if the work completed is not located specifically in those areas. For example, if windows are installed in the upper level, a smoke detector is still required in the basement.

Carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed and complying with UL 2034 and installed per manufacturer when one of the following conditions occurs:

1. Fuel-fired appliances exist or are installed; or
2. Have attached garages.

Carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed outside and not more than 10 feet (3048 mm) from each separate sleeping area or bedroom. Alarms shall be installed on each level containing sleeping areas or bedrooms.

Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors must be installed BEFORE final inspection or a \$35.00 reinspection fee may be charged.

This handout is written as a guide to common questions and problems.
It is not intended nor shall it be considered a complete set of requirements.

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