



## Requirements for Smoke Detectors & Carbon Monoxide Alarms

### SMOKE DETECTORS

Minnesota Statute 299F.362 requires that smoke detectors be installed in every residential dwelling in Minnesota.

#### Smoke Detector Locations

Smoke Detectors must be installed:

- In each sleeping room;
- Outside and within the immediate vicinity (within 10'-0") of each separate sleeping area;
- On each story of the dwelling, including the basement and habitable attics (a minimum of one device on each level)

#### Smoke Detector Installation Requirements

- Wall mounted detectors must be located in an area not more than 12" and not less than 4" from the ceiling (or as prescribed in the manufacturer's installation instructions).
- Ceiling mounted detectors should be no closer than 4" from a side wall or peak of a vaulted ceiling (or as prescribed in the manufacturer's installation instructions).
- Detectors should be mounted away from windows and exterior doors.
- Detectors should be mounted on an interior wall.
- Smoke detectors shall not be installed within a 36-inch horizontal path from a door to a kitchen or to a bathroom containing a shower or tub.
- Smoke detectors shall not be installed within a 36-inch horizontal path from the supply registers of a forced air heating or cooling system and shall be installed outside of the direct airflow from those registers.
- Smoke detectors shall not be installed within a 36-inch horizontal path from the tip of the blade of a ceiling-suspended (paddle) fan.

Batteries should be changed once a year. One way to remember to change the batteries is when you set your clocks ahead or back for daylight savings time. Most smoke detectors emit a chirp when the battery is low. It is good practice to press the test button and manually check them periodically.

Life expectancy of smoke detectors are approximately **10 years**, even if they sound when tested. The date of manufacture should be indicated on the back of the detector. If no date is evident, it should be assumed the detector is beyond its life expectancy and should be replaced.

**\*\*An individual dwelling unit shall be equipped with smoke detectors at the locations indicated above when:**

1. **Alterations, repairs (including installation or replacement of windows or doors), or additions requiring a permit occur; or**
2. **One or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings.**

**Smoke detectors will be inspected for proper locations and operation during the final inspection of interior remodel projects and additions, including the installation or replacement of windows or doors. Failure to install smoke detectors at the locations indicated above may result in a failed final inspection.**

**An occupant who willfully disables a smoke detector or causes it to be nonfunctioning, resulting in damage or injury to persons or property, is guilty of a misdemeanor. (MN Statute 299F.362, Subd. 6(b) )**

### CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

Minnesota Statute 299F.51F requires every single family dwelling and every dwelling unit in a multifamily dwelling must have an approved and operational carbon monoxide alarm installed outside, but within ten feet and on the same level as, each room lawfully used for sleeping purposes.

### **Carbon Monoxide Alarm Locations**

Carbon Monoxide Alarms must be installed:

- Outside and not more than 10 feet from each separate sleeping area or bedroom;
- On each level containing sleeping areas or bedrooms

Batteries should be changed once a year. One way to remember to change the batteries is when you set your clocks ahead or back for daylight savings time. Most smoke detectors emit a chirp when the battery is low. It is good practice to press the test button and manually check them periodically.

Life expectancy of carbon monoxide alarms are approximately **5 years**, even if they sound when tested. The date of manufacture should be indicated on the back of the alarm. If no date is evident, it should be assumed the alarm is beyond its life expectancy and should be replaced.

**\*Keep in mind if a smoke detector/carbon monoxide alarm combination device is installed, the device shall be replaced after the carbon monoxide alarm's life expectancy has expired (approximately 5 years) or an additional carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed at the locations indicated above.**

### **Where Required:**

- New construction, every one-family dwelling unit, two-family dwelling unit, each townhouse dwelling unit and every dwelling unit in a multifamily dwelling when one of the following conditions occur:
  - Fuel-fired appliances are installed; or
  - Have attached garages
- Where work requiring a permit occurs in existing dwellings that have attached garages; or
- Where work requiring a permit occurs in existing dwellings that have fuel-fired appliances

**\*\*Carbon Monoxide Alarms will be inspected for proper locations and operation during the final inspection of interior remodel projects and additions, including the installation or replacement of windows or doors. Failure to install carbon monoxide alarms at the locations indicated above may result in a failed final inspection.**

### **Owner's duties**

The owner of a multifamily dwelling unit which is required to be equipped with one or more approved carbon monoxide alarms must:

- (1) provide and install one approved and operational carbon monoxide alarm within ten feet of each room lawfully used for sleeping; and
- (2) replace any required carbon monoxide alarm that has been stolen, removed, found missing, or rendered inoperable during a prior occupancy of the dwelling unit and which has not been replaced by the prior occupant prior to the commencement of a new occupancy of a dwelling unit.

### **Occupant's Duties**

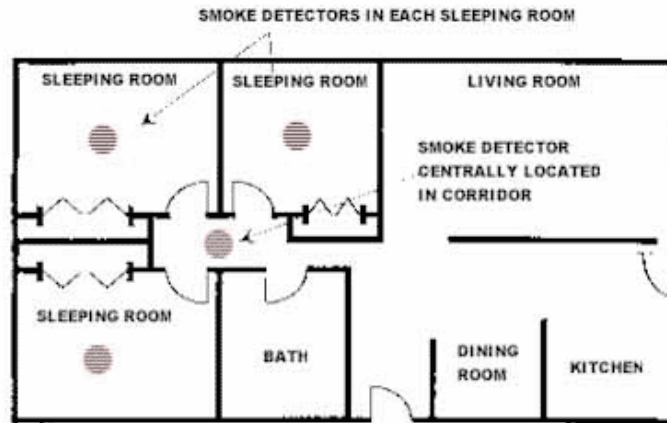
The occupant of each dwelling unit in a multifamily dwelling in which an approved and operational carbon monoxide alarm has been provided and installed by the owner must:

- (1) keep and maintain the device in good repair; and
- (2) replace any device that is stolen, removed, missing, or rendered inoperable during the occupancy of the dwelling unit.

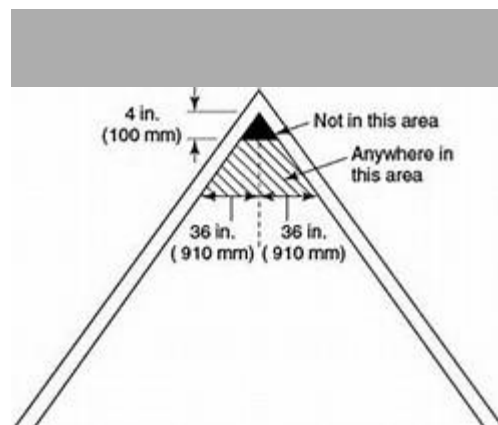
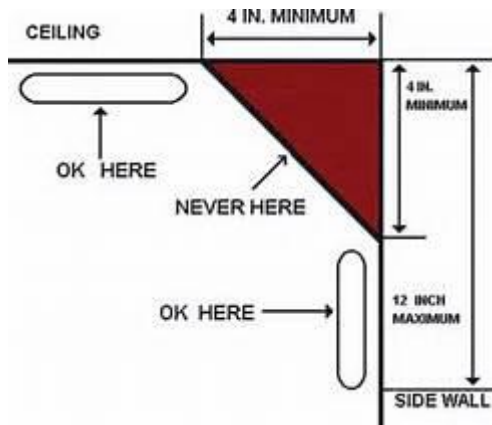
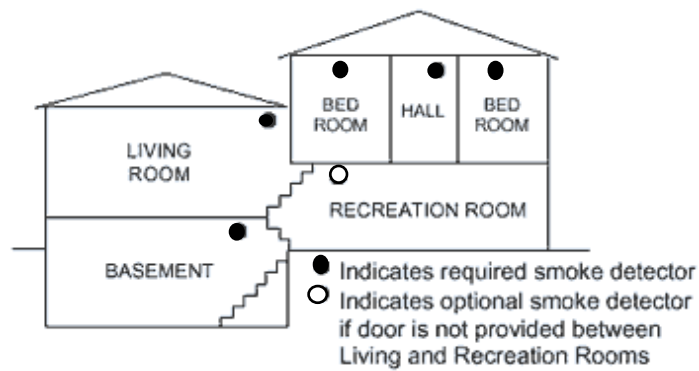
### **Battery removal prohibited**

No person shall remove batteries from, or in any way render inoperable, a required carbon monoxide alarm.

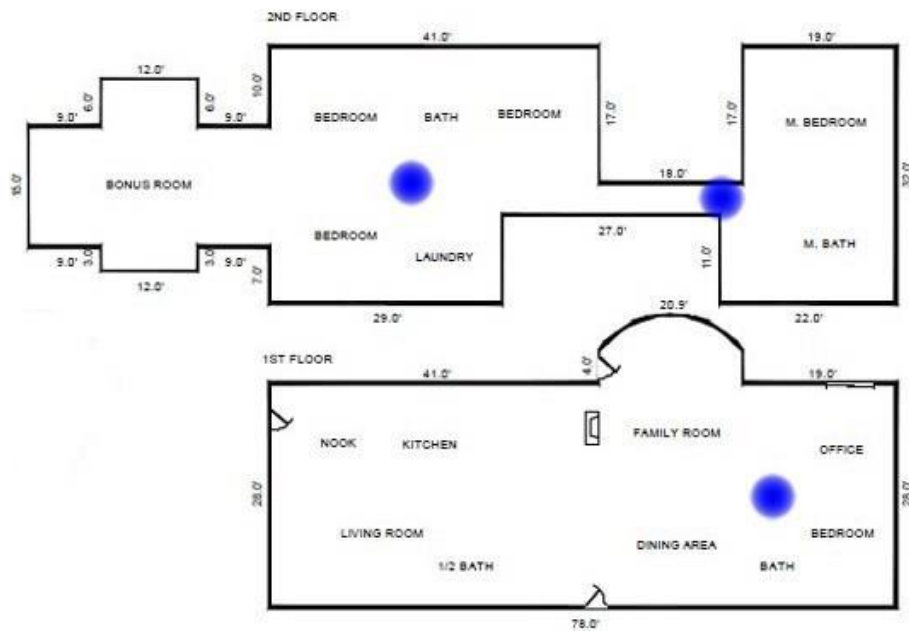
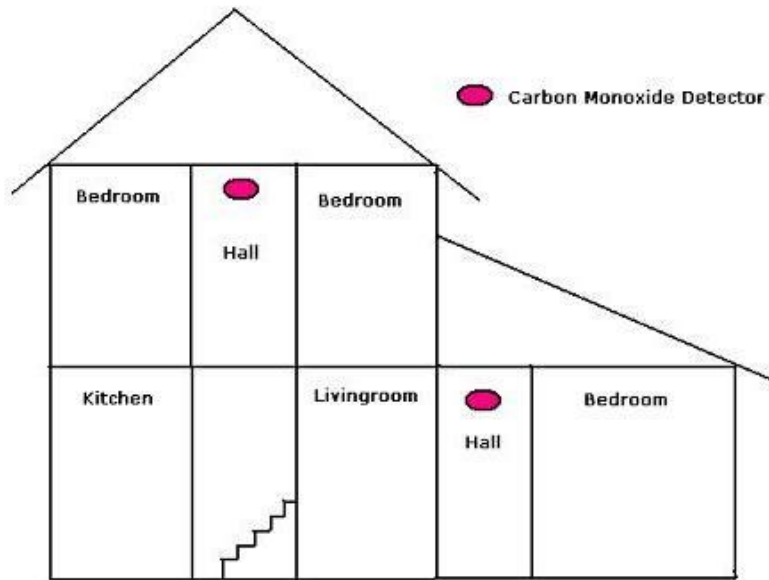
## SMOKE ALARM LOCATION DIAGRAMS



LOCATION OF SMOKE DETECTORS WITHIN A RESIDENCE



### CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM LOCATION DIAGRAMS



● Carbon Monoxide Alarm