



DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE
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New Castle County has developed a policy for installation of carbon monoxide alarms when additions or renovations to residences are performed. The policy strives to ensure safety compliance, while not creating an onerous burden on contractors and homeowners. Policy provisions state:

Carbon monoxide alarms are only required in a project if either of the following conditions apply:

- The dwelling unit contains a fuel-fired appliance (wood, propane, natural gas, etc.)
- The dwelling unit has an attached garage with a 'communicating' opening into the dwelling unit

Combination smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are permitted in lieu of carbon monoxide alarms

NEW HOMES.

All new home construction must meet the provisions of the 2018 IRC Section R315 exactly. (SEE REVERSE SIDE)

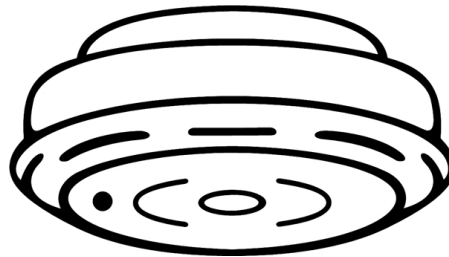
RENOVATIONS.

Minor renovations: The installation of battery-operated carbon monoxide alarms is required in all locations required by the IRC.

Major renovations: The installation of hard-wired* carbon monoxide alarms is required as specified in the IRC for a new single-family dwelling.

LIVING SPACE IN BASEMENT.

Basement living space requires the installation of battery• operated alarms in all locations required by the IRC. For bedrooms in basement, see **Residential Additions - With New Bedroom.**



*Power to hard-wired alarms shall come from a dedicated circuit **OR** the unswitched** portion of a branch circuit.

**Unswitched means that the operation of a switch or ground-fault-circuit-interrupter (GFCI) shall not cause the power to be shut off.

RESIDENTIAL ADDITIONS.

With New Bedroom. If the addition includes a new bedroom(s), a hard-wired* carbon monoxide alarm is required outside of each separate new sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. Where a fuel-burning appliance is located within a bedroom or its attached bathroom, a carbon monoxide alarm is required within the bedroom. In addition, battery operated alarms are required in all other locations required by the IRC.

Without New Bedroom. If the addition does NOT include a new bedroom, battery operated alarms are required in all locations required by the IRC.

DECKS & EXTERIOR SURFACE MODIFICATIONS.

These exterior only projects do not invoke carbon monoxide alarm requirements.

REQUIRED CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM LOCATIONS
(per 2018 IRC R315)

Single- and multiple-station 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. In each sleeping room with a fuel-burning appliance located within the bedroom or its attached bathroom.

SECTION R315 CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

R315.1 General. Carbon monoxide alarms shall comply with Section R315.

R315.1.1 Listings. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 2034. Combination carbon monoxide and smoke alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 2034 and UL 217.

R315.2 Where required. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in accordance with Sections R315.2.1 and R315.2.2.

R315.2.1 New construction. For new construction, carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in dwelling units where either or both of the following conditions exist.

1. The dwelling unit contains a fuel-fired appliance.
2. The dwelling unit has an attached garage with an opening that communicates with the dwelling unit.

R315.2.2 Alterations, repairs and additions. Where alterations, repairs or additions requiring a permit occur, or where one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings, the individual dwelling unit shall be equipped with carbon monoxide alarms located as required for new dwellings.

Exceptions:

1. Work involving the exterior surfaces of dwellings, such as the replacement of roofing or siding, or the addition or replacement of windows or doors, or the addition of a porch or deck, is exempt from the requirements of this section.
2. Installation, alteration or repairs of plumbing or mechanical systems are exempt from the requirements of this section.
3. [**Minor interior renovations to dwellings require the installation of battery operated carbon monoxide alarms as required by the International Residential Code.**]

R315.3 Location. Carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units shall be installed outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms. Where a fuel-burning appliance is located within a bedroom or its attached bathroom, a carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed within the bedroom.

R315.4 Combination alarms. Combination carbon monoxide and smoke alarms shall be permitted to be used in lieu of carbon monoxide alarms.

R315.5 Power source. Carbon monoxide alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring where such wiring is served from a commercial source and, where primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for overcurrent protection.

Exceptions:

1. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be permitted to be battery operated where installed in buildings without commercial power.
2. Carbon monoxide alarms installed in accordance with Section R315.2.2 shall be permitted to be battery powered.

R315.6 Carbon monoxide detection systems. Carbon monoxide detection systems shall be permitted to be used in lieu of carbon monoxide alarms and shall comply with Sections R315.6.1 through R315.6.4.

R315.6.1 General. Household carbon monoxide detection systems shall comply with NFPA 720. Carbon monoxide detectors shall be listed in accordance with UL 2075.

R315.6.2 Location. Carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in the locations specified in Section R315.3. These locations supersede the locations specified in NFPA 720.

R315.6.3 Permanent fixture. Where a household carbon monoxide detection system is installed, it shall become a permanent fixture of the occupancy and owned by the homeowner.

R315.6.4 Combination detectors. Combination carbon monoxide and smoke detectors shall be permitted to be installed in carbon monoxide detection systems in lieu of carbon monoxide detectors, provided that they are listed in accordance with UL 2075 and UL 268.