

CITY OF MILPITAS

Building & Safety Department
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
Milpitas, CA 95035
408-586-3240
www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov



NEW CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM REQUIREMENTS

Effective July 1, 2011, the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act (Senate Bill – SB 183) will require **all existing single-family homes** with an attached garage or a fossil fuel source to install carbon monoxide alarms within the home by July 1, 2011. All other types of residences, such as apartment buildings, condominiums, etc. have until January 1, 2013 to comply with the law.

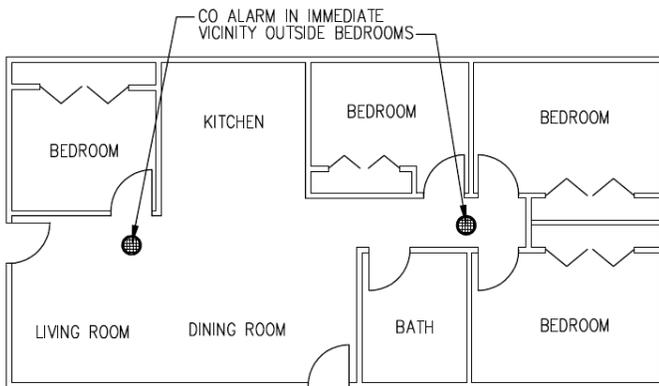
Which homes need to have CO alarms?

The new requirements apply if **ANY** of the following are present within a home:

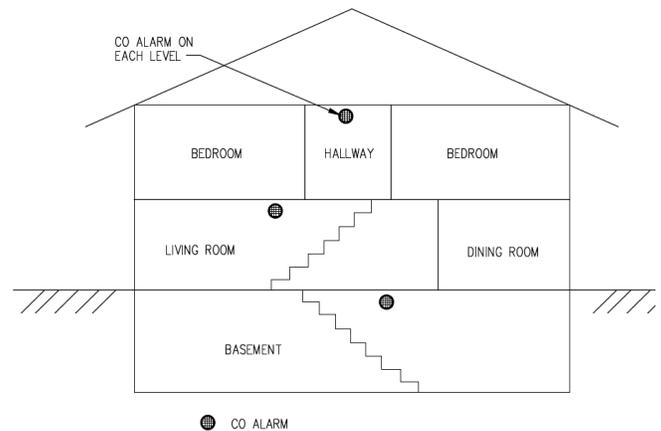
- Attached garage
- Natural gas or propane furnace and/or natural gas range and/or oven
- Gas or wood-burning fireplace
- Any fuel-burning appliances

Where should CO alarms be installed?

- In the immediate vicinity outside each sleeping area or bedroom **AND**
- On each level of the home including basement



LOCATION OF CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM WITHIN A RESIDENCE



Each CO alarm shall be located on the wall, ceiling, or other location as specified in the manufacturer's published instructions that accompany the unit. CO alarms shall be located and mounted so that accidental operation will not be caused by jarring or vibration and shall be supported independently of their attachment to wires.

Should I replace the existing smoke alarm with the CO alarm?

No, the requirement of CO alarm is in addition to any smoke alarms already installed. If the home owner desires to install one combined CO and smoke alarm, it is permitted provided the device is listed and approved by the Office of State Fire Marshal.

Can I use battery powered CO alarm?

Yes, CO alarms may be battery powered in existing homes. However, when remodel or addition to an existing building require the removal of the interior wall or ceiling finishes or there is no access by means of attic, basement, or crawl space, the new CO and smoke alarms must receive their primary power from the building wiring with a battery backup and interconnected. For more information, please visit the following link:

http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/pdfs/bld_permit_app_smoke_alarm.pdf

Which CO alarms should I buy?

CO alarms shall be certified by the Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM). For a list of CO alarms currently approved by SFM, visit the following link:

http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglistings/licenselistings_bml_searchcotest.php

Select 5276 (Carbon Monoxide Alarms) from the "Category" dropdown list and hit the "Search" button.