



Retroactive Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements

The following information is provided to assist property owners with the retroactive requirements for smoke and carbon monoxide alarm requirements for residential properties. In accordance with sections 1103.8 and 1103.9 of the International Fire Code, the City of Fargo requires smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in all residential and institutional occupancies.

Smoke alarms are required in every sleeping room, on the ceiling or wall outside of every sleeping room, and on every level of the residence.

Carbon monoxide alarms are required in institutional and residential occupancies served by fuel-burning appliances or which have an attached private garage accessible from the residential unit. A fuel-burning appliance is one that burns natural gas, liquid propane gas, wood, or any solid material.

Example scenarios for placement of carbon monoxide alarms:

- The building is served by a fuel-burning forced-air furnace:
 - 1) Place a carbon monoxide alarm in the room containing the fuel-burning forced-air furnace

OR

 - 2) Place a carbon monoxide alarm in the hall outside of each sleeping area
- The building contains fuel-burning appliances such as a gas stove/range or fireplace:
 - 1) Place a carbon monoxide alarm in the room containing the appliance or fireplace
- The building contains a wood fireplace/stove or pellet stove:
 - 1) Place a carbon monoxide alarm in the room containing the fireplace/stove
- The building contains a private attached garage accessible from the residence:
 - 1) Place carbon monoxide alarm in the hall outside of each sleeping area

Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms have a 7-10 year life expectancy unless the manufacturer's instructions indicate otherwise. Alarms should be replaced accordingly.

If you have questions regarding your scenario, please contact the Fargo Fire Department at 701-241-1540.