



# CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT | BUILDING DIVISION

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## Updated California Residential Code

Effective: July 1, 2012



# CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM

### *Per:* DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A new law may help prevent senseless carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning in the home. CO is formed from the incomplete burning of any flame-fueled (i.e., not electric) device including ranges, ovens, clothes dryers, furnaces, fireplaces, grills, space heaters, vehicles, and water heaters. Carbon monoxide can be dangerous - when inhaled, it passes from the lungs into the hemoglobin molecules of red blood cells. The result is that the body becomes oxygen-starved, which can lead to tissue damage and death.

- ✓ The new law requires all existing single family homes to have carbon monoxide alarms. All other types of residences (apartments, condominiums, etc.) will need carbon monoxide alarms beginning January 1, 2013.
- ✓ **The new requirements apply if any of the following are present within an existing home:**
  - Natural gas or propane furnace and/or natural gas range and/or oven, or
  - Gas or wood-burning fireplace
  - An attached garage
- ✓ **For existing homes, the CO alarms may be battery powered. CO alarms are required to be located:**
  - Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom **and**
  - On every level of the home including basements.
- ✓ The carbon monoxide alarm must UL 2034 compliant and must be installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA 720 and the manufacturer's instructions. For a list of CO alarms currently approved by the Office of the State Fire Marshal, visit the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection website at [http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglistings/licenseslisting\\_bml\\_searchcotest.php](http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglistings/licenseslisting_bml_searchcotest.php). Select 5276 (Carbon Monoxide Alarms) from the "Category" dropdown list and hit the "Search" button.
- ✓ You may also install combination Carbon Monoxide AND Smoke Alarms since every home also needs smoke alarm protection.

For more information, you can contact the Building Division of Newport Beach at 949 644-3279 or refer to the California Residential Code, Section R315.2 - 2010 Edition.