



ALPINE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

FIRE PREVENTION POLICY MANUAL

FIRE CHIEF APPROVAL

3-31-2014

EFFECTIVE DATE

REVISED

01/14

STANDARD

R315

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

Existing Dwelling Units:

Carbon monoxide alarms on or after January 1, 2013 shall be installed in all existing dwelling units intended for human occupancy as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 13262(b) that have a fossil fuel-burning heater or appliance, fireplace or an attached garage. Carbon monoxide alarms in existing buildings are permitted to be solely battery operated or plug-in type with battery back-up in areas where no construction is taking place.

New Construction:

Carbon monoxide alarms in new construction shall be installed in dwelling units and in sleeping units within which fuel-burning appliances are installed and in dwelling units that have attached garages. The alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring where such wiring is served from a commercial source and shall be equipped with a battery back-up. Alarm wiring shall be directly connected to the permanent building wiring without a disconnecting switch other than as required for over current protection.

Where more than one carbon monoxide alarm is required to be installed within the dwelling unit or within a sleeping unit, the alarm shall be interconnected in a manner that activation of one alarm shall activate all of the alarms in the individual unit.

In May 2010, the State of California enacted a law requiring home owners to install carbon monoxide detectors in their homes. According to the California Air Resources Board, 30 to 40 people die each year from carbon monoxide poisoning. The senate bill, also known as the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act, states that those deaths were avoidable. According to the bill, the California law will help prevent further deaths and increase awareness.

Timeline:

Although the bill was signed into law in 2010, California residents must have carbon monoxide alarms in their homes as of July 1, 2011. This timeline applies only to single-family homes that have appliances that burn fossil fuels or homes that have attached garages or fireplaces.

The California Apartment Association has put together the following alert to help managers of residential properties deal with SB 183 signed by the Governor:

For all other types of housing, such as apartments and hotels, detectors should be in place as of January 1, 2013. Types of Fossil Fuels include wood, gas and oil. The carbon monoxide alarm must be operable at the time the tenant takes possession. A tenant is responsible for notifying the owner or owner's agent if the tenant becomes aware of an inoperable or deficient carbon monoxide detector within his or her unit. The owner or owner's agent must correct any reported deficiencies in the carbon monoxide detector and will not be in violation of this section for a deficient or inoperable carbon monoxide alarm when he or she has not received notice of the deficiency or inoperability.

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