

## Illinois Carbon Monoxide Alarm Detector Act

Effective January 1, 2007 every dwelling unit will be required to have at least one approved carbon monoxide alarm in an operating condition within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping purposes. Alarms can be battery powered, plug-in with battery back up or wired into the AC power line with a secondary battery back up. The alarm can be combined with smoke detecting devices if the combined unit complies with specific standards and the alarm differentiates the hazard.

## The Law

The Illinois General Assembly has passed and the Governor has signed the Carbon Monoxide Alarm Detector Act (Public Act 094-0741). This new law, effective Jan. 1, 2007 requires homeowners and landlords to install carbon monoxide detectors in all buildings containing bedrooms and sleeping facilities.

- ◆ Every "dwelling unit" must be equipped with at least one operable carbon monoxide alarm within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping purposes.
- ◆ The alarm may be combined with smoke detecting devices provided the unit complies with respective standards and the alarm differentiates the hazard.
- ◆ A "dwelling unit" means a room or suite of rooms used for human habitation,

and includes single family residences, multiple family residences, and mixed use buildings.

- ◆ If a structure contains more than one "dwelling unit" an alarm must be installed within 15 feet of every sleeping room in each "dwelling unit".
- ◆ The owner must supply and install all required alarms. A landlord must ensure the alarms are operable on the date of initiation of a lease. The tenant is responsible for testing and maintaining the alarm after the lease commences.
- ◆ A landlord is required to furnish one tenant per dwelling unit with written information regarding alarm testing and maintenance.
- ◆ For more information, go to—  
[www.epa.gov/iaq/co.html](http://www.epa.gov/iaq/co.html)

## FAQs

- ◆ What are the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning?

*At low levels many people will experience mild nausea and a mild headache. Moderate levels will strengthen symptoms along with light headedness and other flu-like symptoms. At high levels death or the risk of neurological disorders occurs.*

- ◆ What to do in an emergency?

*Move the affected person to fresh air. Administer oxygen if possible.*

*Call for medical help.*

*Ventilate the area of any health risks.*

- ◆ What type of carbon monoxide detector do I use?

*The best type of carbon monoxide detector is one that has a low level indicator. This will help in the prevention of any health risks.*

- ◆ How many carbon monoxide detectors should I have and where should I place them in my home?

*Homeowners and landlords are to install carbon monoxide detectors in*

*sleeping facilities. Every "dwelling unit" must be equipped with at least one operable carbon monoxide alarm within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping purposes.*

*The Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends that a CO detector be placed on each floor of a residence. They should be placed near the ceiling and within five feet of gas fuelled appliances or near cooking or bathing areas.*

- ◆ How much do they cost and where can I get one?

*Costs typically range from \$20 for a basic model to \$60 for ones with digital readouts and controls. They can be purchased at hardware stores and home centers.*

**For more information, contact:  
Greg Schwarze, CSFPD  
Public Education Coordinator  
630-668-4836**

*Chief Mike Kanzia  
Carol Stream Fire Protection District  
Chief Kevin Orr  
Carol Stream Police Department*



## NEW STATE LAW REQUIRES A CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR IN YOUR HOME



**PROTECT YOUR  
LOVED ONES**  
Have peace of mind  
to know you are  
safe from  
carbon monoxide  
poisoning.