



Canton Fire Department  
Carbon Monoxide Information  
March 31, 2006

**Mass General Law c.148sec 26F1/2 “Nichole’s Law”  
CMR 527 Sec 31**

**“Each year we see the devastating effects of carbon monoxide poisoning. Many of these incidents are avoidable with early detection and warning as provided in the new law”**

**Installation of CO Detectors shall  
be made by  
March 31, 2006**



Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms shall be equipped in all residential structures that contain:

- **Fossil Fuel Burning Equipment, or**
- **Enclosed Parking**

**Provisions of New Regulation for CO Alarms:**

For most Residential building with fossil fuel burning equipment or enclosed parking areas, the new regulations **require carbon monoxide alarms on every level of a home or dwelling unit including habitable portions of the basements** and attics. **On levels with sleeping areas the alarms must be placed within ten feet of the bedroom doors.**

The regulations allows the following options for CO alarms UL Listed 2034 & 2075:

- Battery operated with battery monitoring
- Plug-ins with battery back up
- Hard-Wired with battery back-up
- Low voltage system
- Wireless
- Qualified Combination (Smoke/CO Alarm)



## **What are acceptable combination Smoke /Carbon Monoxide detector?**

Detector must have simulated voice and tone alarms that clearly distinguish between the two types of emergencies.

The State Building Code mandates that only photoelectric smoke detectors be permitted within 20ft of a bathroom or kitchen. This applies to combination detectors.

Ionization Combination detectors are allowed outside the 20 ft

## **What is the alternative Compliance Options?**

The regulation allows for alternative compliance options that may be more practical for larger buildings with multiple dwelling units that contain minimal or no sources of CO inside the individual units. The option allows owners to target the CO alarm protection only in those areas that could be potential sources of CO. This CO protection option requires hard wired or low voltage wiring, monitoring and certain signal transmission requirements.

*The deadline for compliance with this method of protection is **January 1, 2007.***

*Owners must submit written notification to the fire department of the intent to install Carbon Monoxide alarm protection under the alternative compliance.*

New Construction and renovations fall under the building code:

At present there are no stricter codes, but it is assumed that building codes will follow a hardwire system in the future we will keep you updated.

For more information open the Department of Fire Service Guide and Consumer Product Safety Guide

[Consumer Product Safety Guide](#)

[Fire Service Guide](#)

You can also visit the [Department of Fire Service](#) web site at:  
[www.mass.gov/dfs](http://www.mass.gov/dfs)

**Questions Contact**

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