

RESIDENTIAL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Constructed or Renovated from
January 1, 2008 to February 3, 2011**

**At Least ONE SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR
MUST BE Installed On EACH LEVEL Of The Home!!!!**

Smoke Detectors: 780 CMR 9 (in effect for year of construction) & M.G.L. 148 Chapter 26E

- *Must be **hardwired interconnected photoelectric smoke detectors** with **battery backup**.*
- One smoke alarm on every habitable level of the residence.
- One smoke alarm at the base of each stairway.
- One smoke alarm **outside of each separate sleeping area**.
- One smoke alarm **inside every bedroom**.
- A minimum of one smoke detector must be installed for every 1,200 sq. feet of living space per level. (1201 sq. feet would need 2.)
- *Must be less than 10 years old.*

Carbon Monoxide Detectors: 780 CMR 9

- ***Must be hardwired and interconnected with battery backup.***
New Requirement starting in 2008. (May be separately wired from the existing smoke detection system.)
- Installed on every level of the residence, including habitable portions of basements and attics
- ***Must be located within 10 feet of each bedroom door.***
- **Combination Hardwired Photoelectric Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors may be used but...**
 - ***Must have both a tone and simulated voice alarm*** to distinguish the type of emergency.
 - **Must** follow the above requirements for smoke detector placement. CO detectors are not required inside the bedroom unless you need to walk through one bedroom to enter another bedroom.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and installation.
- **Need** to be replaced after 5 to 7 years per manufacturer's instructions.

Heat detectors:

- Must have a heat alarm in any garage attached to or under the residence.

- Must be hardwired and interconnected with or without battery backup to the existing smoke detection system.
- Heat alarms are not required in garages of older homes unless renovation, addition or modification occurs after Jan. 1, 2008.

Detectors ***must not be painted.***

All detectors ***must be permanently mounted*** using the provided hardware.

HOUSE NUMBERS need to be attached to the home in accordance with M.G.L. 148 SECTION 59: Said number shall be of a nature and size and visible from the street.

City of Westfield requests number format (number not written). For example: 18 not eighteen.

Failed inspections or no-shows may be subject to a \$40.00 re-inspection fee.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Can I remove my hardwired smoke detectors and replace them with battery-operated detectors?

The answer is NO. Hardwired detectors ***must remain hardwired!***

How do I know if the smoke detectors are photoelectric?

Photoelectric smoke detectors will be labeled photoelectric on the back of the detector. There could also be a letter P in a square located on the front of the detector.

When buying new detectors, the package should be labeled photoelectric on the front side of the package or the box. If it doesn't list photoelectric on the front, most likely it is an ionization smoke detector instead.

Do my hardwired photoelectric smoke detectors have to have the 10-year-sealed battery?

Hardwired photoelectric smoke detectors with a 10-year-sealed battery are not required but can be used.

Can I use different brands of hardwired smoke detectors in my house?

If different brands are used, the detectors may not be compatible with each other and may not talk to each other. It may be best to have the same brand throughout the house. Smoke and heat detectors and alarms must be listed by the manufacturer as being compatible with each other.

New Construction and renovations that add a bedroom, garage, or have major alterations, will have to come up to the current code and Carbon Monoxide detectors must be Hard-wired with battery back-up.