

Fire Safety

Why you need smoke and CO alarms

What does the code say?

The 2014 Oregon Fire Code states that working smoke alarms be installed on every level of the home, and working smoke alarms and CO alarms be installed in each bedroom, and in the hallway outside each bedroom.

Why do I need CO alarms AND smoke alarms?

Smoke alarms are very important! They alert you to fire danger and give you time to get you and your family out of the house.

CO alarms (carbon monoxide) are equally important because they alert you if there are dangerous levels of CO in your home; CO is a poisonous, odorless gas and without a CO alarm, you may not know it's there.

Did you know? Combination units have both smoke and CO alarms in one, saving you both time and money!

When should I change the batteries in my smoke and CO alarms?

Follow the manufacturer's recommendation for the type of battery to use in your alarms. Some types have non-replaceable batteries and are good for ten years; once it chirps, replace it with a new one. Other types of alarms have replaceable batteries (AA, 9-volt, etc.); these should be replaced at least once a year.

Where should the alarms be installed?

In Oregon, residential structures are required to have smoke alarms installed outside each sleeping area, located on the ceiling at least four inches from the nearest wall, or on a wall, four to twelve inches from the ceiling. You also need one on each floor.

CO alarms must be installed on each level of the home with bedrooms, and located either within each bedroom or within 15 feet outside of each bedroom door.

Where can I learn more information about fire safety, smoke alarms, and CO alarms?

Click [here](#) for more information and to visit the Office of the State Fire Marshal website

Tip: daylight savings time is a great time to replace batteries on smoke and CO alarms

