Carbon Monoxide Detectors Save Lives

MOST HOMEOWNERS WILL NEED TO INSTALL CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS BY JULY 1ST

The Los Banos Fire Department and Building Department have launched a community outreach effort to inform community residents that on July 1, 2011 many homes will be required to install carbon monoxide detectors.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that carbon monoxide kills approximately 500 people each year and injures another 20,000 people nationwide. In an effort to prevent these accidental deaths and injuries, the California legislature enacted SB 183 (Lowenthal) which mandates owners of dwelling intended for human occupancy to install carbon monoxide devices in existing dwelling units having a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance, fireplace, or attached garage.

**CO devices must be installed in all specified single-family dwellings by July 1, 2011. All other specified dwelling units must have CO devices installed by January 1, 2013.**

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM) has developed a list of certified CO devices that meet the requirement specified within the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010. For a complete list of currently approved devices please visit the SFM’s website at http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglistings/licenselisting_bml_searchcotest.php. Under the search categories provided select Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors for a complete list of devices.

Further details contained within the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010:

- Owners shall install CO devices in a manner consistent with building standards applicable to new construction for the relevant type of occupancy if it is technically feasible. See the 2010 California Building Code, Section 420.4, and the 2010 California Residential Code, Section R315.
- CO devices shall produce a distinct audible alarm.
- CO devices may be combined with a smoke detector, if the combination device meets all specified SFM listing and approval requirements.
- Violation of Health & Safety Code Section 17926 is an infraction punishable by a maximum fine of two-hundred dollars for each offense.
- A local enforcement agency shall provide the property owner a 30-day notice to correct.
- Local jurisdictions are authorized to adopt ordinances requiring CO devices if the ordinance is consistent with the requirement of this bill.

For a full list of this legislation’s stipulations please review the Department of Housing and Community Development’s Information Bulletin 2011-01 at http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/shl/infobulls/IB2011-01.pdf.
The Los Banos Fire and Building Departments are providing the following information for your health and safety.

Los Banos Fire Department
333 7th Street
Los Banos, CA 93635
Phone: 209-827-7025

Los Banos Building Department
520 J Street
Los Banos, CA 93635
Phone: 209-827-7000 ext. 125
On May 7, 2010, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010. This act was created due to the alarming statistics related to carbon monoxide poisonings. According to the American Medical Association, carbon monoxide is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in the United States. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that carbon monoxide kills approximately 500 people each year and injures another 20,000 people nationwide.

The need for a carbon monoxide detector in your home is great because a person cannot see or smell carbon monoxide. It is estimated that equipping every home with a carbon monoxide device would cut accident-related costs by 93 percent. Carbon monoxide devices provide a vital, highly effective, and low-cost protection against carbon monoxide poisoning.

Protect your family and install California approved carbon monoxide device in your home today. Do not delay this life saving measure.

**When do I need to install a carbon monoxide device?**

- Carbon monoxide devices must be installed in all single-family dwellings by July 1, 2011.
- All other dwelling units must have carbon monoxide devices installed by January 1, 2013.
- This law applies only to homes and dwelling units that have a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance, fireplace or an attached garage.

**Where should I install the carbon monoxide devices?**

- Outside of each separate dwelling unit sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom.
- On every level of a dwelling unit including basements.
- As specified in the manufacturer's installation instructions and in accordance with NFPA 720.

**Which carbon monoxide devices meet California’s standards?**

- **BRK Brands, Inc.: First Alert**
  Models: CO250, CO400, CO410, CO500, CO511, CO600, CO604, CO606, CO614, CO615, CO5120BN, CO5120PDBN, GC01
- **Edwards**
  Models: SIGA2-COS, SIGA2-PCOS, SIGA2-HCOS, SIGA2-PCOS, SIGA2-PHCOS, SIGAS2-PHCOS, 250-CO
- **Gentex Corporation**
  Models: CO1209, CO1209F, GN-503
- **Honeywell Security**
  Model: 5800CO
- **Kidde Safety**
- **System Sensor**
  Models: CO1224, CO1224T, CO1224TR
- **Quantum Group: CoStar**
  Models: GG100, 12RV-DB, 9RV

This list is subject to change please check the most recent list on California’s Office of the State Fire Marshal’s website: [http://www.osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglisting/licenselisting_bml_searchcotest.php](http://www.osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglisting/licenselisting_bml_searchcotest.php)

Carbon monoxide alarms/detectors must be listed in accordance with either UL2034 or UL2075 and approved by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.