



Carbon Monoxide Detector Law

As of January 1, 2017, Nebraska law requires Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors be installed when homes are sold, rented, or significantly renovated.

Often called the invisible killer, Carbon Monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of CO. Other sources include automobiles left running in an attached garage and a faulty fireplace.

When selecting a CO alarm, choose one that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory. If you are unsure which monitor would work best for your specific needs, feel free to contact your local fire department for help.

For low income households, first responders are also aware of programs that provide smoke and CO detectors for free.

CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations required by applicable codes or standards. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.

Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions. If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.

If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel arrive.