

TITLE: CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM
VERSION: V3.0
DATE PUBLISHED: 08/11/23

DEFINITION: A single or multiple station alarm intended to detect carbon monoxide gas and alert occupants by a distinct audible signal, or if the unit is occupied by a person with a hearing impairment, a distinct visual alarm or combination of audible and visual alarms. It incorporates a sensor, control components and an alarm notification appliance in a single unit.

PURPOSE: Detect and signal elevated carbon monoxide levels to prevent poisoning.

COMMON COMPONENTS: Sensor; power source / battery; casing; wiring; base; alarm / alarm circuit; strobe light; LCD panel / visual display; microprocessor; circuit board

LOCATION: Unit Where required as described in the Deficiency Criteria
 Inside Where required as described in the Deficiency Criteria
 Outside None

MORE INFORMATION:

- This is not a replacement for a code inspection.
- All requirements of IFC Sections 915 and 1103 must be met, even though only the criteria listed herein will be inspected for in a NSPIRE inspection.
- If a fuel-burning appliance is located in an attic, then treat the attic space as a mechanical room.

DEFICIENCY 1: Carbon monoxide alarm is missing, not installed, or not installed in a proper location.

LOCATION: Unit – Affirmative Habitability Requirement

DEFICIENCY 2: Carbon monoxide alarm is obstructed.

LOCATION: Unit Inside

DEFICIENCY 3: Carbon monoxide alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested.

LOCATION: Unit Inside

DEFICIENCY I — UNIT: CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM IS MISSING, NOT INSTALLED, OR NOT INSTALLED IN A PROPER LOCATION. AFFIRMATIVE HABITABILITY REQUIREMENT

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA:

One (1) or more of the following scenarios exists:

1. Unit contains a fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace, and a carbon monoxide alarm is not installed:
 - a. in the immediate vicinity of each bedroom.
OR
 - b. within each bedroom.
2. Bedroom or bathroom attached to bedroom:
 - a. contains a fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace.
OR
 - b. has adjacent spaces from which byproducts of combustion gases can flow.
AND
 - c. Carbon monoxide alarm is not installed in each bedroom.
3. Unit or bedroom is served by a forced-air furnace that is located elsewhere and a carbon monoxide alarm is not installed:
 - a. in the immediate vicinity of each bedroom.
OR
 - b. within each bedroom.
OR
 - c. within the room or area with the first duct register and the carbon monoxide alarm signals are automatically transmitted to an approved location.
4. Unit or bedroom is located in a building that contains a fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace and:
 - a. a carbon monoxide alarm is not installed in an approved location between the fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace and the Unit or bedroom.
OR
 - b. a carbon monoxide alarm is not installed on the ceiling of the room containing the fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace.
OR
 - c. the Unit or bedroom has communicated openings to the fuel-burning appliance or fuel-burning fireplace and a carbon monoxide alarm is not installed:
 - i. in the immediate vicinity of each bedroom.
OR
 - ii. within each bedroom.
5. Unit or bedroom is located one (1) story or less above or below an attached private garage that:
 - a. does not have natural ventilation.
OR
 - b. is enclosed and does not have a ventilation system for vehicle exhaust.
AND
 - c. Carbon monoxide alarm is not installed:
 - i. in the immediate vicinity of each bedroom.
OR
 - ii. within each bedroom.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours
HCV PASS / FAIL Fail
HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- OBSERVATION:**
- Identify all fuel-burning appliances and fuel-burning fireplaces.
 - Identify all adjacent spaces from which byproducts of combustion gases can flow (e.g., attached garage, mechanical room, laundry).
 - Identify all bedrooms.
 - If a fuel-burning appliance, fuel-burning fireplace, or adjacent space from which byproducts of combustion gases can flow is present, then verify that a carbon monoxide alarm is installed within each bedroom or in the immediate vicinity of each bedroom.
- REQUEST FOR HELP:** Ask the POA to identify the following within the Unit:
- fuel-burning appliances;
 - fuel-burning fireplaces; and
 - adjacent spaces from which byproducts of combustion gases can flow.
- ACTION:** - None
- MORE INFORMATION:** - None
-

DEFICIENCY 2 — UNIT: CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM IS OBSTRUCTED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Carbon monoxide alarm is obstructed.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL Fail

HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Look for presence of a carbon monoxide alarm.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - None

ACTION: - Determine if the carbon monoxide alarm is covered by a foreign object (e.g., plastic bag, shower cap, zip tie, paint, tape, decorative stickers).

MORE INFORMATION: - A combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarm should be evaluated under both the Carbon Monoxide Alarm and Smoke Alarm standards.

DEFICIENCY 2 — INSIDE: CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM IS OBSTRUCTED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Carbon monoxide alarm is obstructed.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL Fail

HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION: - Look for the presence of a carbon monoxide alarm.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - None

ACTION: - Determine if the carbon monoxide alarm is covered by a foreign object (e.g., plastic bag, shower cap, zip tie, paint, tape, decorative stickers).

MORE INFORMATION: - A combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarm should be evaluated under both the Carbon Monoxide Alarm and Smoke Alarm standards.

DEFICIENCY 3 — UNIT: CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM DOES NOT PRODUCE AN AUDIO OR VISUAL ALARM WHEN TESTED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Carbon monoxide alarm does not produce audio or visual alarm when tested.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION:

- Look at the carbon monoxide alarm to find a test button; if no test button is present, disregard this deficiency.
- Look to see if the light on the carbon monoxide alarm flashes, strobes, or changes pattern in any way.
- Listen to hear if an alarm is emitted from the carbon monoxide alarm.

REQUEST FOR HELP: - If the test button is over 8 feet high, you may ask the POA to press test button.

ACTION: - If the test button is less than 8 feet high, press the test button.

MORE INFORMATION:

- If the batteries are dead, then the carbon monoxide alarm should be evaluated under this deficiency.
- Any carbon monoxide alarm that is present should be evaluated under this deficiency.
- May utilize a tool to press the test button.

DEFICIENCY 3 — INSIDE: CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM DOES NOT PRODUCE AUDIO OR VISUAL ALARM WHEN TESTED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: Carbon monoxide alarm does not produce an audio or visual alarm when tested.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV — CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- OBSERVATION:**
- Look at the carbon monoxide alarm to find a test button; if no test button is present, disregard this deficiency.
 - Look to see if the light on the carbon monoxide alarm flashes, strobes, or changes pattern in any way.
 - Listen to hear if an alarm is emitted from the carbon monoxide alarm.
- REQUEST FOR HELP:**
- If the test button is over 8 feet high, you may ask the POA to press test button.
- ACTION:**
- If the test button is less than 8 feet high, press the test button.
- MORE INFORMATION:**
- If the batteries are dead, then the carbon monoxide alarm should be evaluated under this deficiency.
 - Any carbon monoxide alarm that is present should be evaluated under this deficiency.
 - May utilize a tool to press the test button.