



## **NEW REQUIREMENTS IN WISCONSIN FOR CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS IN MULTI-UNIT DWELLINGS**

**Requirements for new tourist rooming houses** (cabins under the scope of Wisconsin's Uniform Dwelling Code, Comm 21.095) as of October 1, 2008:

- Installation of carbon monoxide alarms where any type of fuel burning appliances are installed.
- The carbon monoxide alarms must be continuously powered by the building's electrical service with battery backup.

**Requirements for new commercial - residential buildings as of October 1, 2008** (Commercial Building Code, Comm 62.1200):

- Installation of carbon monoxide alarms where any type of fuel burning appliances are installed.
- The carbon monoxide alarms must be continuously powered by the building's electrical service with battery backup.

**Requirements for commercial - residential buildings existing on October 1, 2008, or receiving plan approval prior to October 1, 2008** (Act 205 itself, not the emergency rules, puts in place these requirements for existing tourist rooming houses):

- Installation of carbon monoxide alarms by April 1, 2010.
- No mandatory type of power sources for the carbon monoxide alarms, thereby allowing batteries, electrical outlet plug-ins, or wiring directly to the building's electrical service.
- Omission of carbon monoxide alarms is allowed provided there are no attached garages and all of the fuel burning appliances are of sealed combustion type either under warranty or annually inspected for carbon monoxide emissions.

## STATUTORY INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS IN 2007 WISCONSIN ACT 205

### INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS:

- In the basement of the building if the basement has a fuel-burning appliance.
- Within 15 feet of each sleeping area of a unit that has a fuel-burning appliance.
- Within 15 feet of each sleeping area of a unit that is immediately adjacent to a unit that has a fuel burning appliance.
- In each room that has a fuel-burning appliance and that is not used as a sleeping area. A carbon monoxide detector shall be installed under this subdivision not more than 75 feet from the fuel burning appliance.
- In each hallway leading from a unit that has a fuel-burning appliance, in a location that is within 75 feet from the unit, except that, if there is no electrical outlet within this distance, the owner shall place the carbon monoxide detector at the closest available electrical outlet in the hallway.

**IF A UNIT IS NOT PART OF A MULTI-UNIT BUILDING, THE OWNER OF THE RESIDENTIAL BUILDING NEED NOT INSTALL MORE THAN ONE CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR IN THE UNIT.**



The new regulations were issued as emergency rules by the state Department of Commerce, Safety and Buildings Division, as required by April 2008 legislation titled “2007 Wisconsin Act 205.”

See the emergency rules for current technical aspects of alarm locations, etc.  
<http://commerce.wi.gov/SBdocs/SB-CodeDev2162Emerg0908.pdf>