

LaGrange County

Building Department

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SMOKE/CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM REQUIREMENTS

Based on the Indiana Residential Code, 2020 Edition R314 & R315

All alarms shall be interconnected, so that the activation of one will activate all alarms in the dwelling unit. Alarms must be audible in all sleeping areas and installed per manufacturers instructions. (Wireless battery operated units are acceptable in homes without electricity.)

NEW CONSTRUCTION LOCATIONS with power from a utility must have hardwired devices.

Carbon monoxide alarms are required when a dwelling unit has a fuel fired appliance or attached garage that can access the dwelling. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in the following areas:

1. Outside each sleeping area.
2. Inside a bedroom or bath with a fuel burning appliance.
3. Combo smoke/monoxide can be substituted in a bedroom.

Smoke alarms shall be installed in each of the following areas:

1. Living area at least 20 feet away from kitchen and cooking appliances. If less than 20 feet, alarm must have a temporary silencing feature or be of photoelectric type.
2. Each sleeping room.
3. Each level, including the basement.
 - a. 2nd floor near the top or above the stairway.
 - b. Basement near stairway, usually on the bottom of a joist.

REMODELING LOCATIONS

When alterations or additions occur, or sleeping rooms are added or created, the entire building shall be provided with hard-wired smoke/carbon monoxide alarms. Exception: Interconnected alarms are NOT required when wireless units are installed as for new construction.

PROHIBITED LOCATIONS

1. within 3 feet of a grill moving heat/air or a door opening to a full bathroom.
2. where not approved by manufacturer.

MOUNTING LOCATIONS

1. per the manufacturers instructions and
2. on flat ceilings
 - a. at least 4 inches from each wall or
 - b. on the wall 4-12 inches below the ceiling to the top of the alarm or according to manufacturers instructions
3. on peaked ceilings (cathedral) on the ceiling or wall
 - a. within an area above a line measured 3'-0 horizontally ceiling to ceiling
 - b. and at least 4 inches below the peak
 - c. and at least 4 inches from any projection
4. on single slope ceilings
 - a. on ceiling or wall within 3 feet of the high point
 - b. at least 4 inches from any wall or projection

POWER SOURCE

1. electrical system of the home as a primary source
2. battery as a secondary source
3. all connections shall be according to Indiana Electrical Code or Residential Code.
4. circuit can't include any switch other than required over-current protection or GFCI