



Moreno Valley Fire Department Information Bulletin

Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors in Single & Multi Family Residential Housing

The Fire Prevention Bureau of the Moreno Valley Fire Department is notifying residents, property managers, and landlords that as of July 1, 2011, the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act (Senate Bill – SB 183) will require all single-family homes with an attached garage or a fossil fuel source to install carbon monoxide alarms within the home by July 1, 2011. Owners of multi-family leased or rental dwellings, such as apartment buildings, have until January 1, 2013 to comply with the law.

Carbon Monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that is produced from heaters, fireplaces, furnaces, and many types of appliances and cooking devices. It can also be produced by vehicles that are idling.

SB-183 requires the installation of CO detectors in all dwelling units. A dwelling unit is defined as a single-family dwelling, duplex, lodging house, dormitory, hotel, motel, condominium, time-share project, or dwelling unit in a multiple-unit dwelling unit building.

Installation -CO Detectors should be installed outside all sleeping areas of the home including the basement. The manufacturer's installation instruction should also be followed. CO Detectors are not required to be installed in each sleeping room. They are required by SB-183 to be installed outside of each sleeping area. For maximum protection against CO gas, it is *recommended* that a CO device be installed in each sleeping room. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 720), the location for effective performance is not generally dependent on mounting height. The density of carbon monoxide is similar to that of air at room temperature, and carbon monoxide generally mixes readily with air. The manufacturer's installation instruction should also be followed.

For additional information please refer to the State Fire Marshal's website at www.osfm.fire.ca.gov.