



California State Fire Marshal Information Bulletin 11-06

Issued: August 24, 2011

Licensed 24 Hour Residential Care Facilities

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide clarification relative to enforcement requirements of 2009 Senate Bill (SB) 183, Chapter 19, the "Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010" that specifically addresses licensed 24 hour residential care facilities.

1. Are the carbon monoxide devices required on an existing single-family residence that now chooses to become a residential care facility?

Yes, by July 1, 2011, carbon monoxide devices must be installed in all detached single-family dwellings that contain a fuel burning appliance or which has an attached garage.

2. Are the devices required to be retrofitted in existing large residential care facilities that house clients in individual dwelling units? An example would be an assisted living facility where each client resides in an individual apartment.

Yes, by January 1, 2013, apartment houses and assisted living facilities that contain a fuel burning appliance or which has an attached garage must have carbon monoxide device installed.

3. If voluntarily installed by a care provider, can a combination smoke alarm/carbon monoxide device be utilized?

Carbon monoxide devices may be combined with a smoke detector, if the combination device meets all specified State Fire Marshal listing and approval requirements. The combined device must emit an alarm in a manner that clearly differentiates between a carbon monoxide alarm warning and a smoke alarm warning as per Health and Safety Code, section 13262 (c). For additional information please visit the State Fire Marshal Building Materials and List webpage at http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglistings/licensing_bml_searchcotest.php.



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4. How many devices are required for existing dwellings and where should they be located?

Owner or owner's agent shall install carbon monoxide devices in a manner consistent with building standards contained in the 2010 California Building Code, Section 420.4 and/or the 2010 California Residential Code, Section R315.

5. If multiple carbon monoxide devices are provided in addition to existing smoke alarms, must the two be interconnected so that they sound simultaneously when any single device is activated?

No, smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms are two distinct and separate systems and interconnection of the two are not required. See the 2010 California Building Code, Section 420.4.1.2, and the 2010 California Residential Code, Section R315.1.2, as well as the manufactures specifications.

6. Can the local fire official disapprove the 850 (Fire Clearance Request Form) if the facility does not have a carbon monoxide detector installed?

No, the 850 Fire Clearance Request Form is specific to State Fire Marshal laws and regulations adopted by the State Fire Marshal related to fire and panic safety.

For more information regarding carbon monoxide devices please visit our website <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov> and follow the links below.

http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/strucfireengineer_bml.php

For Housing and Community Development Information Bulletin 2011-01 (SHL) regarding carbon monoxide devices please click on the link below.

<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/shl/infobulls/IB2011-01.pdf>