



***SAVING LIVES
AND
PROTECTING
PROPERTY***

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**Bureau of Fire Prevention
Roy Mond
Fire Official**

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP FIRE PREVENTION
BUREAU GUIDE TO *CERTIFICATE OF SMOKE
DETECTORS, CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM &
PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHER COMPLIANCE*
(CSDCMAPFEC) FOR
1 & 2 FAMILY DWELLINGS**

The Montgomery Township Fire Prevention Bureau conducts CSDCMAPFEC inspections on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. We require one week notice from the time we receive the application and fee.

SMOKE DETECTOR REQUIREMENTS

TEST AND CLEAN YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED INSPECTION DATE. CHECK TABLE BELOW TO ENSURE YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS MEET THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

There are different types of smoke detectors

1. Battery operated smoke detectors
2. Electric smoke detectors
3. Electric smoke detectors with interconnection
4. Electric smoke detectors with interconnection and battery back-up

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The type of smoke detectors required for a CSDCMAPFEC will depend on the type of smoke detectors that were required at the time of original construction. Replacing electric smoke detectors with battery-operated smoke detectors are **not permitted**. Defective interconnected smoke detectors must be replaced with compatible detectors or in the alternative; all interconnected detectors must be replaced to meet the requirements of CSDCMAPFEC.

HOUSES BUILT/RENOVATED

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CSDCMAPFEC

Prior to January 1977

Battery operated smoke detectors on all levels.

January 1977-September 1978

Electric smoke detectors on sleeping levels.
Battery **operated** smoke detectors on all other levels

October 1978-January 1983

Electric smoke detectors on sleeping & basement level
Battery operated smoke detectors on all other levels

February 1983-July 1984

Electric smoke detectors on all levels.

August 1984-February 1991

Electric smoke detectors on all levels.
All detectors must be interconnected.

March 1991-Present

Electric smoke detectors on all levels & inside each
Bedroom.

March 1991-present cont.

All detectors must be interconnected and equipped
with battery back up.

A smoke detector is required on every building level.

EXCEPTION: Split levels where you may omit a half-level, but not two adjacent half levels, and not if there is an intervening door between the levels. The lowest level and all levels with bedrooms must have smoke alarms.

A smoke detector is required **within 10 feet of every bedroom door**. If a level has more than one sleeping area, smoke detectors are required on each sleeping area **within 10 feet of every bedroom door** .

The smoke detector installed on the basement level and all levels without a sleeping area must be located in close proximity to the stairway leading to the floor above.

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Smoke detectors must be properly mounted and secured to the ceiling or wall. Smoke detector base must be flush with the ceiling/wall.

All smoke alarms must be UL listed or equivalent and must have a test button.

Common area hallways and stairways in two-family houses must have smoke detectors at each landing.

Smoke detectors are NOT permitted:

- Within 5 feet of a kitchen (cooking vapors)
- Within 3 feet of an attic fan or the tip of the ceiling fan blades.
- Within 3 feet of the door leading to a bathroom containing a tub or shower (steam)
Exception: Photoelectric type smoke detectors may be within 3 feet of bathroom.
- Within 3 feet of an air vent (supply or air flow)
- Within 1 foot of a light fixture
- Within the “dead air space” where the wall meets the ceiling (ceiling detectors must be at least 4” from wall, wall mounted detectors must be at least 4” and no more than 12” from ceiling)
- Smoke detectors are not permitted to be painted

Montgomery Township Fire Prevention will not test fire alarm systems. Many of these systems do not meet the CSDCMAPFEC requirements.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) ALARM REQUIREMENTS

A Carbon Monoxide alarm is required on the sleeping level(s) of all 1&2 family dwellings. The alarm must be in the **hallway within 10 feet of every bedroom door.**

Carbon monoxide alarms may be battery or electric.

If a combination smoke detector/carbon monoxide alarm is installed, the placement of the detector must meet the requirements for a smoke detector.

PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHER REQUIREMENTS

A portable fire extinguisher is required within 10 feet of the kitchen area. If a home has more than one kitchen or cooking area, additional fire extinguishers are required.

The fire extinguisher must be:

- Size to be no smaller than a 2-1/2 pound (1A:10B:C) rated for residential use and weigh no more than 10 lbs.
- **Rated as a ABC-type fire extinguisher**
 - *****NOTE*** there is a 2-1/2 extinguisher that the box is labeled KITCHEN. This is only B:C and does not meet the requirements of the code.**
- Listed, labeled, charged and operable
- The fire extinguisher must have a valid service tag indicating the extinguisher has been serviced within the past year
 - **Exception:** A new extinguisher (purchased within 6 months) with the original receipt taped to the extinguisher.
- Mounted on hangers or in brackets supplied by manufacturer **within 10 Feet of the Kitchen**. (Extinguisher CAN be in a cabinet or closet but it must be mounted)
- The extinguisher must be accompanied by an owner's manual or written information regarding the operation, inspection and maintenance of the extinguisher
- The extinguisher must be installed so the operation instructions shall be clearly visible.

ATTENTION

All Smoke Detectors, Carbon Monoxide Alarms, and Fire Extinguishers **MUST** be installed in the proper locations prior to the inspection. Failure to do so will result in a failed inspection.

Call Fire Prevention for further information. If you need further assistance please call us at (908) 359-8211 x. 237 or 228