

# Office of Building Department

## Town of Southington, Connecticut

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### **SMOKE DETECTORS CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS**

#### **Updated to the 2022 Connecticut State Building Code**

Effective October 1, 2022 Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors are required to be updated before commencement of any permitted work, pursuant to sections R314 and R315 of the *International Residential Code* portion of the State of Connecticut Building Code.

Please be advised that upon first interior inspection of any work related to the Building permit and final inspection for the Certificate of Occupancy/Approval to be issued, there shall be inspections of all required Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors. At such time, any possible safety violations of the Connecticut State Building Code will be noted and brought to the attention of the property owner(s); items may include finished basements, finished bonus areas, remodeling of kitchens or bathrooms, wiring, mechanical equipment or etc.

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Updated: December 1, 2022

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### **SMOKE DETECTORS CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS**

#### **SECTION R314 SMOKE ALARMS**

**R314.1 General.** Smoke alarms shall comply with NFPA 72 and Section R314.

**R314.1.1 Listings.** Smoke alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 217. Combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 217 and UL 2034.

**R314.2 Where Required.** Smoke alarms shall be provided in accordance with this section.

**R314.2.1 New Construction.** Smoke alarms shall be provided in dwelling units.

1. **R314.2.2 Alterations, Repairs and Additions.** When alterations, repairs or additions requiring a permit occur, or when one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings, the entire dwelling unit shall be provided with smoke alarms located as required for new dwellings.

#### **Exceptions:**

1. Work involving the exterior surfaces of dwellings, such as the replacement of roofing or siding, or the addition or replacement of windows or doors, or the addition of a porch or decks, are exempt from the requirements of this section.
2. Installation, alteration or repairs of plumbing, mechanical or electrical systems are exempt from the requirements of this section.

**R314.2.3 During Construction.** Pursuant to section 29-315b of the Connecticut General Statutes, whenever a dwelling is occupied during interior alterations or additions requiring a building permit, the temporary installation of battery-operated smoke alarms shall be required in the vicinity of such alterations or additions for the duration of construction activities. A combined smoke and carbon monoxide alarm may be installed to comply with R315.2.3 and this section.

**R314.3 Location.** Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations:

1. In each sleeping room.
2. Outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms.

3. On each additional story of the dwelling, including basements and habitable attics and not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics. In dwellings or dwelling units with split levels and without an intervening door between the adjacent levels, a smoke alarm installed on the upper level shall suffice for the adjacent lower level provided that the lower level is less than one full story below the upper level.
4. Not less than 3 feet (914 mm) horizontally from the door or opening of a bathroom that contains a bathtub or shower unless this would prevent placement of a smoke alarm required by this section.
5. In the hallway and in the room open to the hallway in dwelling units where the ceiling height of a room open to a hallway serving bedrooms exceeds that of the hallway by 24 inches (610 mm) or more.

**R314.3.1 Installation Near Cooking Appliances.** Smoke alarms shall not be installed in the following locations unless this would prevent placement of a smoke alarm in a location required by Section R314.3.

1. Ionization smoke alarms shall not be installed less than 20 feet (6096 mm) horizontally from a permanently installed cooking appliance.
2. Ionization smoke alarms with an alarm-silencing switch shall not be installed less than 10 feet (3048 mm) horizontally from a permanently installed cooking appliance.
3. Photoelectric smoke alarms shall not be installed less than 6 feet (1828 mm) horizontally from a permanently installed cooking appliance.
4. Smoke alarms listed and marked "helps reduce cooking nuisance alarms" shall not be installed less than 6 feet (1828 mm) horizontally from a permanently installed cooking appliance.

**R314.4 Interconnection.** Where more than one smoke alarm is required to be installed within an individual dwelling unit in accordance with Section R314.3, the alarm devices shall be interconnected in such a manner that the actuation of one alarm will activate all of the alarms in the individual unit. Physical interconnection of smoke alarms shall not be required where listed wireless alarms are installed and all alarms sound upon activation of one alarm. Exception: Interconnection of smoke alarms in existing areas shall not be required where alterations or repairs do not result in removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure.

**R314.5 Combination Alarms.** Combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms shall be permitted to be used in lieu of smoke alarms.

**R314.6 Power Source.** Smoke alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring where such wiring is served from a commercial source and, where primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for overcurrent protection.

**Exceptions:**

1. Smoke alarms shall be permitted to be battery operated where installed in buildings without commercial power.

2. Smoke alarms installed in accordance with Section R314.2.2 shall be permitted to be battery powered.

**R314.7 Fire Alarm Systems.** Fire alarm systems shall be permitted to be used in lieu of smoke alarms and shall comply with Sections R314.7.1 through R314.7.4.

**R314.7.1 General.** Fire alarm systems shall comply with the provisions of this code and the household fire warning equipment provisions of NFPA 72. Smoke detectors shall be listed in accordance with UL 268.

**R314.7.2 Location.** Smoke detectors shall be installed in the locations specified in Section R314.3.

**R314.7.3 Permanent Fixture.** Where a household fire alarm system is installed, it shall become a permanent fixture of the occupancy, owned by the homeowner.

**R314.7.4 Combination Detectors.** Combination smoke and carbon monoxide detectors shall be permitted to be installed in fire alarm systems in lieu of smoke detectors, provided that they are listed in accordance with UL 268 and UL 2075.

## **SECTION R315 CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS**

**R315.1 General.** Carbon monoxide alarms shall comply with Section R315.

**R315.1.1 Listings.** Carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 2034. Combination carbon monoxide and smoke alarms shall be listed in accordance with UL 217 and UL 2034.

**R315.2 Where Required.** Carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in accordance with Sections R315.2.1 and R315.2.2.

**R315.2.1 New Construction.** For new construction, carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in dwelling units where either or both of the following conditions exist.

1. The dwelling unit contains a fuel-fired appliance.
2. The dwelling unit has an attached garage with an opening that communicates with the dwelling unit.

**R315.2.2 Alterations, Repairs and Additions.** Where alterations, repairs or additions requiring a permit occur, or where one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings, the individual dwelling unit shall be equipped with carbon monoxide alarms located as required for new dwellings.

**Exceptions:**

1. Work involving the exterior surfaces of dwellings, such as the replacement of roofing or siding, or the addition or replacement of windows or doors, or the addition of a porch or deck.
2. Installation, alteration or repairs of plumbing systems.
3. Installation, alteration or repairs of mechanical systems that are not fuel fired.

**R315.2.3 During Construction.** Pursuant to section 29-315b of the Connecticut General Statutes, whenever a dwelling is occupied during interior alterations or additions requiring a building permit where a fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage exists, the temporary installation of battery-operated carbon monoxide alarms shall be required in the vicinity of such alterations or additions for the duration of construction activities. A combined smoke and carbon monoxide alarm may be installed to comply with Section R314.2.3 and this section.

**R315.3 Location.** Carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units shall be installed outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms and on each additional habitable level of the dwelling unit. Where a fuel-burning appliance is located within a bedroom or its attached bathroom, a carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed within the bedroom. The alarm shall be clearly audible in all bedrooms over background noise levels with all intervening doors closed.

**R315.4 Combination Alarms.** Combination carbon monoxide and smoke alarms shall be permitted to be used in lieu of carbon monoxide alarms.

**R315.5 Interconnectivity.** Where more than one carbon monoxide alarm is required to be installed within an individual dwelling unit in accordance with Section R315.3, the alarm devices shall be interconnected in such a manner that the actuation of one alarm will activate all of the alarms in the individual dwelling unit. Physical interconnection of carbon monoxide alarms shall not be required where listed wireless alarms are installed and all alarms sound upon activation of one alarm.

**Exception:** Interconnection of carbon monoxide alarms in existing areas shall not be required where alterations or repairs do not result in removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure, unless there is an attic, crawl space or basement available that could provide access for interconnection without the removal of interior finishes.

**R315.6 Power Source.** Carbon monoxide alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring where such wiring is served from a commercial source and, where primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for overcurrent protection.

**Exceptions:**

1. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be permitted to be battery operated where installed in buildings without commercial power.
2. Carbon monoxide alarms installed in accordance with Section R315.2.2 shall be permitted to be battery powered.

**R315.7 Carbon Monoxide Detection Systems.** Carbon monoxide detection systems shall be permitted to be used in lieu of carbon monoxide alarms and shall comply with Sections R315.7.1 through R315.7.4.

**R315.7.1 General.** Household carbon monoxide detection systems shall comply with NFPA 720. Carbon monoxide detectors shall be listed in accordance with UL 2075.

**R315.7.2 Location.** Carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in the locations specified in Section R315.3. These locations supersede the locations specified in NFPA 720.

**R315.7.3 Permanent Fixture.** Where a household carbon monoxide detection system is installed, it shall become a permanent fixture of the occupancy and owned by the homeowner.

**R315.7.4 Combination Detectors.** Combination carbon monoxide and smoke detectors installed in carbon monoxide detection systems in lieu of carbon monoxide detectors shall be listed in accordance with UL 268 and UL 2075.