

From the City of Marshalltown's Housing Inspection Office

The State of Iowa's Fire Marshal office has released the Iowa Code requirements for carbon monoxide (661-211). You can find the entire document at the City of Marshalltown's website: <https://www.marshalltown-ia.gov/rental>
This document is only a summary related to rental housing enforcement.

Carbon monoxide alarms are required starting July 1, 2018 if the building/unit is served by a fuel-burning heater, fuel-burning furnace, fuel-burning appliance, fuel-burning fireplace, or has an attached garage and it is applicable for single-family rentals and multiple-unit rentals. There are further references to new & existing construction.

Who is responsible for the installation and maintenance?

It is the responsibility of the owner, owner's agent, or manager of a multiple-unit residential building, single-family residence, or single-family rental unit to install carbon monoxide alarms as required by this chapter. Tenants may be required to maintain alarm including the changing of batteries.

Placement of the Carbon Monoxide Detectors 661-211.12

- a. In the immediate vicinity of every room used for sleeping purposes in each dwelling unit.
- b. In each bedroom where a fuel-burning heater or furnace, fuel-burning appliance, or fireplace is located within the bedroom or its attached bathroom.
- c. In each sleeping unit, if the sleeping unit or its attached bathroom contains a fuel-burning appliance, fuel-burning heater or furnace, or fireplace.
- d. In the immediate vicinity of each sleeping unit where the sleeping unit or its attached bathroom does not contain a fuel-burning appliance, fuel-burning heater, or fireplace and is not served by a forced-air furnace.

Our office, along with the City's Building Official and Fire Chief, have reviewed these requirements and applicability to rental properties. Below are some placement examples:

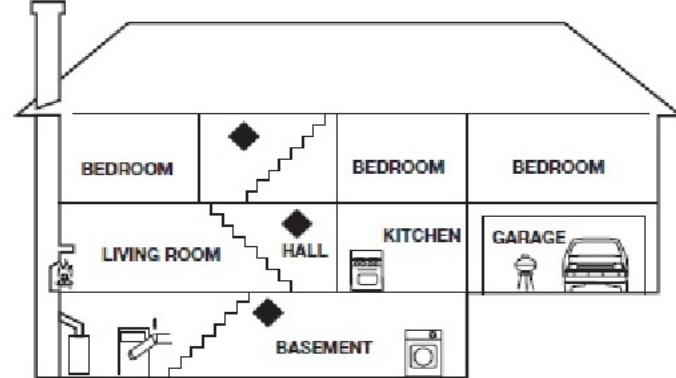
Single Family Dwelling:

- In most cases, there must be one on each level of a single-family dwelling including the basement. In addition, they are always located outside the bedrooms/sleeping areas.
- There must be one in each bedroom where a fuel-burning heater or furnace, fuel-burning appliance, or fireplace is located within the bedroom or its attached bathroom.
- In an interior area adjacent to an attached garage.

Multi-family dwellings:

- There must be one inside each separate apartment located outside the bedrooms/sleeping areas.
- There must be one in each bedroom where a fuel-burning heater or furnace, fuel-burning appliance, or fireplace is located within the bedroom or its attached bathroom.
- There must be one in the basement if there is the presence of the fuel-burning items.
- There may need to be one in common areas. We will review these type of buildings with the owners.

Example of Single Family Dwelling Placement:



◆ Marks the minimum required areas and recommended placements where you could install the carbon monoxide detectors in this single family home that has a fuel-burning furnace, fuel-burning appliances, fuel-burning fireplace and an attached garage.

Types of Carbon Monoxide Detectors:

- For existing buildings, you can use battery operated or units that plug into an electrical socket and have battery back-up.
 - For their installation, install according to package directions.
- For new construction requirements, please contact the City Building Official and/or Fire Chief.

The carbon monoxide detector MUST be UL Listed!

Carbon monoxide detectors are NOT required IF there are NO fuel-burning furnaces, fuel-burning utilities, fuel-burning appliances, fuel-burning fireplaces or attached garages.

You Still Need Dual Sensor Smoke Detectors That Are Ionization (I) and Photoelectric (P)!

- You will still need to install dual sensor smoke detectors that are both ionization and photoelectric (I & P) in all of your rentals by 2020 as ordered by the State Fire Marshal a few years ago.
 - However, if any smoke detector is replaced sooner in an existing rental or the property is a new rental, they must be the dual sensor (I & P) smoke detectors.
- At this time, we are not aware of any detectors/alarms for sale that detects for all three requirements; carbon monoxide, ionization and photoelectric.
- *This document is an informational guide and is subject to change based on new information or interpretations of the Iowa code requirement.*
- *We always welcome your questions in this matter as well as all others relating to rental inspections.*

Contact us at 641-754-6582