

CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS IN RESIDENCES

Information for landlords



Landlords should take steps to help keep tenants safe from carbon monoxide.

WISCONSIN CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR LAW

- All residences in Wisconsin built after June 1, 1980 are **mandated by law** to have a carbon monoxide (CO) detector installed if there is a fuel-burning appliance in the residence. Examples of fuel-burning appliances are: gas or oil-burning furnaces, gas or wood-burning stoves, and gas-powered clothing dryers.
- CO detectors are required on every floor of a residence, including the basement.
- Landlords who are caught in violation of the law have five days to correct it. If the violation is not corrected, the landlord can be fined \$50/day for each day after the five-day deadline.



1 out of every 4 Wisconsinites does not have a CO detector in their residence*.

*Data from the Survey of the Health of Wisconsin, 2018-2019

TAKE ACTION

- **Make sure that your rental properties have working CO detectors.** Some smoke detectors also have a CO detector, but not all do. Check for the words “CO” or “Carbon Monoxide” on the detector. CO detectors can be purchased at most hardware stores for \$20–\$50.
- **Replace CO detectors every five years** or according to manufacturer instructions.
- **Have fuel-burning appliances in your rental properties inspected annually.** Hire a professional to make sure they work properly and vent outside the building.
- **Recommend that your tenants test the CO detectors monthly.** Provide your tenants with the DHS fact sheet on [Carbon Monoxide Detectors in Residences: Information for tenants, P-02935](#).

LEARN MORE

Read more about carbon monoxide detector requirements in [Wis. Stat. § 101.149](#), and Wis. Admin. Code §§ [SPS 362.0915](#) and [SPS 321.097](#).

