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.

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.

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