Single-Family and Multifamily Dwelling Requirements

Carbon monoxide detectors are required:

1) In every hallway serving sleeping rooms, no more than 10 feet from the door of all sleeping rooms (see Figures 1 & 2);

2) In each story of a dwelling unit, including basements, but excluding crawl spaces and uninhabitable attics (see Figures 3 & 4).

3) In every single-family dwelling unit by July 1, 2011; in every other dwelling unit by July 1, 2013. Prior to these dates, installation is required when a Building Permit with valuation over $1,000 is issued.

Applicable Codes: California Health & Safety Code § 17926(a); California Residential Code § R315.2; California Building Code § 420.4.2

Always install carbon monoxide detectors according to the manufacturer's instructions. Refer to the manual included with the unit. For more information, call the City of Albany’s Community Development Department at (510) 528-5760 or Fire Prevention Bureau at (510) 528-5775.
17926. (a) An owner of a dwelling unit intended for human occupancy shall install a carbon monoxide device, approved and listed by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section 13263, in each existing dwelling unit having a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance, fireplace, or an attached garage, within the earliest applicable time period as follows:
   (1) For all existing single-family dwelling units intended for human occupancy on or before July 1, 2011.
   (2) For all other existing dwelling units intended for human occupancy on or before January 1, 2013.
(b) With respect to the number and placement of carbon monoxide devices, an owner shall install the devices in a manner consistent with building standards applicable to new construction for the relevant type of occupancy or with the manufacturer's instructions, if it is technically feasible to do so.
   (c) (1) Notwithstanding Section 17995, and except as provided in paragraph (2), a violation of this section is an infraction punishable by a maximum fine of two hundred dollars ($200) for each offense.
   (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a property owner shall receive a 30-day notice to correct. If an owner receiving notice fails to correct within that time period, the owner may be assessed the fine pursuant to paragraph (2).
   (d) No transfer of title shall be invalidated on the basis of a failure to comply with this section, and the exclusive remedy for the failure to comply with this section is an award of actual damages not to exceed one hundred dollars ($100), exclusive of any court costs and attorney's fees. This subdivision is not intended to affect any duties, rights, or remedies otherwise available at law.
   (e) A local ordinance requiring carbon monoxide devices may be enacted or amended if the ordinance is consistent with this chapter.

17926.1. (a) An owner or owner's agent of a dwelling unit intended for human occupancy who rents or leases the dwelling unit to a tenant shall maintain carbon monoxide devices in that dwelling unit consistent with this section and Section 17926.
   (b) An owner or the owner's agent may enter any dwelling unit intended for human occupancy owned by the owner for the purpose of installing, repairing, testing, and maintaining carbon monoxide devices required by this section, pursuant to the authority and requirements of Section 1954 of the Civil Code.
   (c) The carbon monoxide device shall be operable at the time that the tenant takes possession. A tenant shall be responsible for notifying the owner or owner's agent if the tenant becomes aware of
an inoperable or deficient carbon monoxide device within his or her unit. The owner or owner's agent shall correct any reported deficiencies or inoperabilities in the carbon monoxide device and shall not be in violation of this section for a deficient or inoperable carbon monoxide device when he or she has not received notice of the deficiency or inoperability.

(d) This section shall not affect any rights which the parties may have under any other provision of law because of the presence or absence of a carbon monoxide device.

(e) For purposes of this section, with respect to a time-share project, "owner" means the homeowners' association of the time-share project.

17926.2. (a) If the department, in consultation with the State Fire Marshal, determines that a sufficient amount of tested and approved carbon monoxide devices are not available to property owners to meet the requirements of the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2009 and Sections 17926 and 17926.1, the department may suspend enforcement of the requirements of Sections 17926 and 17926.1 for up to six months. If the department elects to suspend enforcement of these requirements, the department shall notify the Secretary of State of its decision and shall post a public notice that describes its findings and decision on the departmental Internet Web site.

(b) If the California Building Standards Commission adopts or updates building standards relating to carbon monoxide devices, the owner or owner's agent, who has installed a carbon monoxide device as required by Section 17926 or 17926.1, shall not be required to install a new device meeting the requirements of those building standards within an individual dwelling unit until the owner makes application for a permit for alterations, repairs, or additions to that dwelling unit, the cost of which will exceed one thousand dollars ($1,000).