

# BUILDING CODE AMENDMENT REQUIRES CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS IN RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

Submitted by: George Mann, DHBC Deputy Director

## 2007 KENTUCKY BUILDING CODE AMENDMENT

*Effective 03-06-2011*

*Mandatory enforcement 06-01-2011*

### SECTION 914

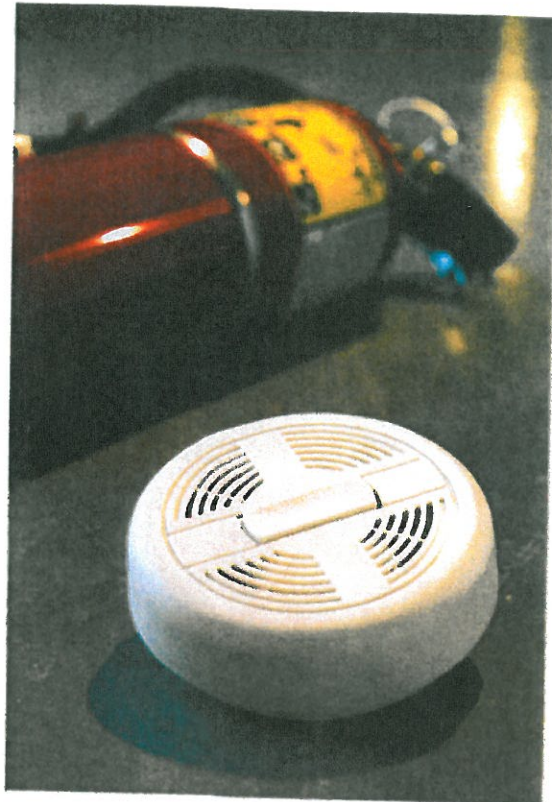
#### CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

##### 914.1 Carbon monoxide alarms.

For new construction, an approved carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed in the immediate vicinity of all bedrooms in dwelling units and sleeping units of occupancies R-2, R-3 and R-4 in which fuel-fired appliances are installed or have attached garages.

**914.2 Where required in existing dwellings.** Where work requiring a permit occurs within an existing dwelling of an R-2, R-3 or R-4 occupancy equipped with fuel-fired appliance(s) or an existing dwelling that has an attached garage(s), the permitting authority shall inform the owner/occupant that carbon monoxide alarms are required to be installed in accordance with Section 914.3 of the code.

**914.3 Alarm requirements.** Single station carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed as complying with UL 2034. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with this code and the manufacturer's installation instructions.



**SUMMARY:** For all new construction projects involving dwelling units and sleeping units regulated by the building or residential code, an approved carbon monoxide detector is required to be installed in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms if there are fuel fire appliances within the dwelling or sleeping area or if the structure has an attached garage. If the structure is an all electric structure and no attached garage, then there is no requirement for a carbon monoxide detector.

When dealing with renovations or alterations to an existing structure having dwelling units or sleeping units equipped with fuel-fire appliances and the work requires a permit, the permitting authority (which is typically the building official) is responsible for informing the owner/occupant of the dwelling/sleeping unit that a carbon monoxide detector is required.

The carbon monoxide detectors used within these dwelling and sleeping units can be fully hard-wired systems, single station battery operated units or AC units as can be purchased at many home improvement centers. The key as to whether a detector is required is triggered by the use of fuel-fired appliances within the building which consists of dwelling units or sleeping units and single family dwellings or if any of these buildings has an attached garage.