

TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

411 HAMILTON AVE
BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NJ 07922
Phone (908) 464-0800

APPLICATION FOR CARBON MONOXIDE / SMOKE DETECTOR FIRE EXTINGUISHER CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

Date and time of inspection. _____ Payment. \$ _____

Application Date. _____ Closing Date. _____ Block: _____ Lot: _____

Address. _____ Phone No. _____

Applicant. _____ Contact Person. _____

I, _____ hereby authorize the Bureau of Fire Prevention of the Township of Berkeley Heights to conduct those inspections as required by Section 8.20.050 of the Township Code, N.J.A.C. 5:70-2.20 and N.J.A.C. 5:70-4.19 at the above stated location. I understand the following are requirements for issuance of the Certificate of Approval:

Fee Schedule: Requests for a CSDCMAFEC received more than 10 business days prior to change of occupant **\$35.00**; received 4 to 10 business days prior to change of occupant; **\$70.00**; and received fewer than 4 business days prior to change of occupant; **\$125.00**

1. A Certificate of Smoke Detector, Carbon Monoxide Alarm and Fire Extinguisher Compliance (CSDCMAFEC) is required before any "Use Group R-3 or R-4" dwelling unit is sold, leased or otherwise made subject to change of occupancy for residential purposes. These Use Groups include all buildings arranged for the use of detached one- and two-family dwelling units. These Use Groups shall also mean R-4 Units within R-2 Buildings, Bed and Breakfast homestays as well as one- and two-family dwellings constructed in accordance with the Uniform Construction code requirements for multiple single-family dwellings.

2. Prior to a CSDCMAFEC being issued, an inspection must be conducted by the Berkeley Heights Fire Prevention Bureau to determine if smoke detectors, carbon monoxide alarms and fire extinguishers are properly located and operating.

3. Inspections are conducted between the hours of 9 a.m. and noon Tuesday and Thursday. Every effort is made to begin inspections on time; however, inspections are conducted by in-service fire units. Owners or owner representatives must be at the home and are encouraged to arrive 30 minutes early.

4. The CSDCMAFEC will remain valid for a period of six (6) months from the date of issue unless the occupancy or ownership of the dwelling changes in the interim. Certificates are not transferrable.

5. Guidelines for the proper installation of smoke detectors, carbon monoxide alarms and fire extinguishers are on the following pages. Please note: two-family dwellings also require smoke detectors to be located at the highest level of each common stairwell.

6. The Township and its officials, employees and inspectors are held harmless in the event that a smoke detector or carbon monoxide detector device becomes damaged, inoperable or otherwise be put out of service.

Instructions for Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detector/Portable Fire

Extinguisher Inspections

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

- 1, Outside each separate sleeping area if the dwelling contains a fuel burning appliance or an attached garage.
- 2, Shall be less than 7 years old
- 3, Shall be no more than 10 feet from the bedroom doors.
- 4, The alarm shall be installed according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Smoke Detectors

- 1, On each level of a dwelling, including basements, excluding crawl spaces and attics with uninhabitable Space. (A floor level is a level with three or more steps between levels)
- 2, Outside each separate sleeping area on any floor.
- 3, All detectors shall be in compliance with NFPA 72, properly mounted and in working order and less than 10 years old
- 4, All detectors must have a test button.
- 5, Homes constructed or altered after 1977 provided with AC powered and/or interconnected detector shall be maintained in working order as required by the Certificate of Occupancy. (Cannot be replaced with battery cannot be replaced with battery units)
- 6, The alarm shall be installed according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Fire Extinguisher

- It is required that one ABC Fire Extinguisher be provided within 10 feet of the kitchen.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

One fire extinguisher shall be provided in each dwelling unit as follows:

1. The extinguisher shall be listed, labeled, charged and operable.
2. The size shall be no smaller than 2A:10BC and no larger than 10 pounds.
3. The extinguisher shall be supported by brackets or hangers supplied by the manufacturer.
4. The extinguisher must be within 10 feet of the kitchen.
5. The extinguisher must be mounted with the top of the extinguisher no more than 5 feet above the floor.
6. The extinguisher shall be visible and in a readily accessible spot, free from blocking by furniture, storage, equipment or other items.
7. The extinguisher shall be mounted near a room exit or travel way that provides and escape to the exterior.
8. The extinguisher shall be accompanied by an owner's manual or written information regarding the operation, inspection and maintenance of the extinguisher.
9. The extinguisher shall be installed so the operation instructions are clearly visible.

FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS , All required fire protection systems such as sprinkler systems shall remain fully operational.

Frequently asked questions

What does the inspection involve?

The Fire Inspector will visit your home at a scheduled time and spray a special chemical into your detector(s) or depress the test button on carbon Monoxide detector(s) and ensure that all the required detector(s) and the portable fire extinguisher are installed correctly and working properly. If everything works, you will be given a certificate.

What must I do to prepare for the Inspection?

1. Complete an application for Smoke Detector And Carbon Monoxide Certification. (Can be picked-up at Township Clerk at the Municipal Building.
2. Pay the required fee and schedule the inspection.
3. Test all your Detectors by pressing and holding the test button until the device activates.
4. Replace batteries, as needed.
5. Clean the detectors by vacuuming with a strong vacuum or blowing them out with compressed air.
6. Make sure that the detectors are properly located and mounted securely. Detectors should not be closer than five feet to a ceiling fan, and ceiling mounted is preferred. Refer to attach map for further instructions.
7. If your home has 110-volt AC detectors that are part of an interconnected system, all the detectors must activate when anyone is tested! Should a fire break out in your basement, the detector in your room will sound to alert you. If all your interconnected detectors are not sounding, you should hire a qualified, licensed Electrician to make repairs. Placing a single-station battery detector in place of the 110-volt AC detector will result in Failure, delaying Certification.
8. Install additional Detectors where missing. (Refer to attached map)
9. Install a portable, Multi-Purpose Dry Chemical (ABC) type fire extinguisher within ten feet of the kitchen.
10. Replace detectors when they are ten years old. It has been recently learned that smoke detectors have a life expectancy of ten years, and should be replaced afterwards.
11. Locate detectors away from nuisance sources. Detectors should not be placed in kitchens or bathrooms, near furnaces or fireplaces or dusty places.

Smoke Detectors are required:

- At the base (landing) of basement steps, (on the ceiling) nearest the steps.
- At the base of the stairs, (on the ceiling) nearest steps to second floor or level.
- At the top of steps to an attic served by fixed steps

Smoke Detectors are NOT required:

- Attics accessible by hatches, scuttles, pull-down steps or ladders.
- Crawl spaces without fixed permanent steps
- Do not place detectors on the sloped ceiling of stairwell.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors are required:

- In the area of the sleeping room(s) in all dwellings with attached garages, fuel burning appliance or fireplace.
- Most homes will require on detector, if all the sleeping rooms are in one area.

Portable Fire Extinguisher are required:

Effective November 1, 2005, New Jersey law requires the installation of a minimum on one portable fire extinguisher with a rating of (2A-10-B:C) within ten feet of the kitchen. These extinguishers are to be mounted to the wall using brackets supplied with the extinguishers and are of a Multi-Purpose type (ABC rating)

Where are Smoke Detectors Required?

Depending upon when your house was built, a minimum of one on every level (typically basement, near steps to second floor, and in corridor near bedroom within 10 (ten) feet of sleeping rooms. (See attached map)

Where are Carbon Monoxide Detectors Required?

In the immediate area of sleeping room(s) of your home. The detectors may be battery operated, 110-volt plug-in type or 110 volt hard wired. You may install a combination smoke/carbon monoxide detector, which contains both sensors inside one unit, if you wish. Homes with any fuel burning appliance or attached garages require carbon monoxide detectors.

I have a portable Fire Extinguisher but it is over one year old, or no longer charged what should I do?

Have the unit inspected and tagged by a NJ Certified Fire Equipment Contractor or: Purchase and install a new extinguisher. Where can I purchase a portable Fire Extinguisher? At any Home Center, Hardware Store, most large department stores, and at a Fire equipment vendor listed in the yellow pages.

Where do I install the fire extinguisher?

Per NFPA 10, (National Fire Protection Standard) they are to be installed in a conspicuous and accessible location, no less than 6 inches from the floor, not more than 5 feet to the top of the unit. The extinguisher MUST be located within ten feet of the kitchen area, using the bracket supplied with the unit.

Who is responsible for furnishing the fire extinguisher?

Like the Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors requirements, it is the responsibility of the SELLER

My Home is 100% electric, with no attached garage, and no fireplace. Do I need Carbon Monoxide Detector?

Since carbon monoxide is a by-product of combustion, and you do not have a fuel burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage, you are exempt from the carbon monoxide requirement. Only smoke detectors would be required.

My Home has a Security Alarm System. Will this be tested?

No. If you installed a home security system, the alarm installer or contractor will have to certify your system. Only the equipment required by the N. J. Uniform Construction Code at the time of occupancy will be tested and certified.

Cancellations

You must call the office at 908-464-2700 ext. 1 during normal business hours to cancel. 48 hours' notice is required for cancellations.

Failures

Make necessary repairs as directed by the Fire Inspector and call to set up for a re-inspection. One re-inspection will be allowed for non-compliance per application.

Questions?

Call the Fire Prevention Office at 908-464-0800 ext. 13

