

LITTLE COMPTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

60 Simmons Road • Little Compton, Rhode Island 02837 • Tel:(401) 635-2325 • Fax:(401) 635-2013

PARTIAL SMOKE AND CO DETECTOR REQUIREMENTS FOR SINGLE AND TWO-FAMILY RESIDENCES

This is not a comprehensive list of the requirements, just the common reasons for inspections not passing.

1) Are the detectors in place and operating? Plug in CO detectors are not acceptable. CO detectors must be within 10 feet of sleeping room doors. In other words, if the bedrooms are off a common hallway that is 20 feet long or less, a CO detector in the center of the hallway is acceptable. They are only required on levels with sleeping areas, not every level of the home, although we suggest they be put on every level.

2) Are the detectors less than 10 years old? (They will have a date code on the detector somewhere. If they don't they are probably over 10 years old.) If they are over 10 years old they must be replaced.

3) Is the circuit breaker marked if it is a hard wired system?

4) Is it a combination fire/burglar alarm system? If it is, a representative from the alarm company must be present to perform the test.

5) Are the house numbers on the house visible from the street? If the house is not visible from the street, the numbers must be BOTH on the house and on a marker at the driveway so that the latter are visible from the street.

Houses built prior to 1976 can have battery-operated smoke detectors.

Houses built between 1976 and 1992 have to be hard wired smoke detectors.

Houses built after 1992 have to be hard wired with battery back-up smoke detectors.

Houses built before 2002 can have battery operated CO detectors.

Houses built after January 1, 2002 must have hard wired with battery back-up CO detectors.

Combination smoke and CO detectors are acceptable.

If there are any questions please call the Little Compton Fire Department.