

Smoke Detectors



The Richfield building code and city code provide minimum standards for creating an environment of health and safety for all Richfield residents.

Smoke Detector Requirements – International Residential Code section 317

Smoke detector installation is required for all homes when interior alterations, repairs, or additions requiring a permit occur, or when one or more sleeping rooms are added or created.

Smoke detectors must be both hard wired and battery powered and must be interconnected.

Smoke detectors in existing areas may be battery powered only where the alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure unless there is an attic, crawl space, or basement available which could provide access for hard wiring and interconnection without the removal of interior finishes.

Smoke detectors are required:

- In each sleeping area (bedroom).
- Outside of each separate sleeping area (bedroom) in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms.
- On each level of the structure.

Smoke detectors must be installed in each of these locations, even if the work completed is not located specifically in those areas. For example, if windows are installed in the upper level, a smoke detector is still required in the basement.

Smoke detectors must be installed BEFORE final inspection or a \$20 reinspection fee may be charged.

This handout is written as a guide to common questions and problems.
It is not intended nor shall it be considered a complete set of requirements.
City of Richfield ● 6700 Portland Avenue South ● Inspections Division ● (612) 861-9860
Zoning Administrator ● (612) 861-9760
Fire Marshal ● (612) 861-9855