



## CODE INFORMATION SHEET

Based on the 2015 edition of the Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code, NFPA 101 and NFPA 1

### Residential Single Station Smoke Alarm Installation Guidelines

|  | Occupancy   | Type   | Required Power Supply   | Required Locations   | Reference  | Notes  |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| <b>NEW<br/>Building</b>                                  | <b>OWNER – OCCUPIED<br/>Single Family Dwelling</b>  | Photoelectric only alarms required to be installed   | Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup.  | Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms</li> <li>on all floor levels including the basement.</li> </ul>                                     | VSA Title 9<br>Chapter 77  |  |
|  | <b>ALL OTHER DWELLING UNITS</b>   | Photoelectric only alarms required to be installed   | Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup.<br>All smoke alarms within the dwelling unit must be interconnected.   | Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms,</li> <li>inside each sleeping room</li> <li>on all floor levels including the basement.</li> </ul> | NFPA 101<br>Section 24.3.4.1<br>Section 30.3.4.5<br>Section 9.6.2.10 | See General Note # 1,3   |
| <b>EXISTING<br/>Building</b>                             | <b>OWNER – OCCUPIED<br/>Single Family Dwelling</b>  | Photoelectric only alarms required to be installed at time of transfer by sale or exchange   | Constructed prior to <b>January 01, 1994</b> :<br>Hardwired into the building electric system <b>OR</b> by Battery  | Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms</li> <li>on all floor levels including the basement.</li> </ul>                                     | VSA Title 9<br>Chapter 77  | The seller shall certify to the buyer that smoke and CO alarms are installed and working using the DFS form. |
|  | Constructed after <b>January 01, 1994</b> :<br>Hardwired into the building electric system with battery backup.   |  |   |  |  |  |
|  | <b>1 OR 2 DWELLING UNITS<br/>IN THE SAME BUILDING</b>   | All alarms newly installed or replaced alarms are required to be Photoelectric   | Must be hardwired with battery backup. into the building electrical system. with exception of existing Sleeping rooms.<br>See General Note # 4  | Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the immediate vicinity of sleeping rooms</li> <li>in all sleeping rooms.</li> <li>on all floor levels including the basement.</li> </ul>     | NFPA 101<br>Section 24.3.4.1<br>Section 9.6.2.10                     | See General Note # 3   |
| <b>3 OR MORE DWELLING UNITS<br/>IN THE SAME BUILDING</b> | All alarms newly installed or replaced are required to be Photoelectric   | Must be hardwired with battery backup. into the building electrical system with exception of existing sleeping rooms in buildings constructed <b>prior to January 01, 1994</b> .<br>See General Note # 4 | Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all common areas</li> <li>all levels of a building.</li> <li>in all sleeping rooms.</li> </ul>   | NFPA 101<br>Section 31.3.4.5<br>Section 31.3.4.5.3<br><br>NFPA 72<br>Section 11.5.4  | See General Note # 2, 3 and 4  |  |
| <b>General Smoke Alarm Notes:</b>                        | 1. "All Other Dwelling Units": includes any residential rental unit, residential condos, hotels & dormitories, rooming & lodging, residential care facility and apartments.<br><br>2. Per the manufacture instructions, Smoke alarms older than 10 years from the date of manufacture must be replaced. |  | 3. All smoke alarms within the dwelling unit must be interconnected in new buildings or existing buildings undergoing reconstruction or extensive modification.<br><br>4. in Existing apartment buildings, smoke alarms in sleeping rooms are permitted to be lithium battery powered, 10-year tamper-resistant alarms. |  |  |  |

This sheet is designed to provide information to enhance the public safety of all Vermonters. This code information sheet is not an all-inclusive list of state laws or additional code requirements that may apply. This educational resource sheet does not carry the force of legal opinion and was developed by the Vermont Division of Fire Safety, with information provided by The U.S. Fire Administration and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and other partners. For additional information please visit [firesafety.vermont.gov](http://firesafety.vermont.gov)