

IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO: All Participating Section 8 Landlords
FROM: Mary A. Michalczyk, Chief of Rental Assistance
DATE: June 1, 2010
SUBJECT: CARBON-MONOXIDE DETECTOR REQUIREMENTS

Effective **July 1, 2010**, the Housing Authority of the City of Pawtucket will be requiring that all apartments rented under the Section 8 Housing Program comply with the **State of Rhode Island Fire Code** with respect to the installation of carbon-monoxide detectors.

Beginning with all annual and initial Housing Quality Standard (HQS) inspections performed on or after July 1, 2010, the Housing Authority will require carbon-monoxide detectors to be installed as follows:

- A carbon-monoxide detector must be placed outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms;
- Each bedroom or sleeping room separate from another by “other use areas”, such as kitchens or living rooms, but not bathrooms, must have a separate carbon-monoxide detector;
- All carbon-monoxide detectors must be mounted according to the manufacturer’s specifications.
- All carbon-monoxide detectors must have a visible, intermittent or steady “power on” indicator and, in case of natural gas detection, sound an audible signal having a minimum rate of 85 dBA at 10 feet.

Exception: Dwelling units that do not contain any fuel burning (gas/oil) appliances, a fireplace or an attached or integrate garage are exempt from carbon-monoxide requirements.

Any apartment inspected on or after July 1, 2010 that does not have carbon-monoxide detectors installed as required above will be considered a “failed” unit and not in compliance with the Housing Quality Standards (HQS) of the Section 8 Housing Program in the City of Pawtucket. If you do not have carbon-monoxide detectors installed in your apartments as required above, please contact your tenants and make arrangements to install them prior to July 1, 2010.

If you have any questions with respect to the above requirements, please do not hesitate to contact me at 721-6017.

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