

# **Belmont Fire Department**

## **Residential Smoke Detector Guidelines**

### **(780 CMR 3603.16)**

**780 CMR 3603.16.13-** “When one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings, the entire building shall be provided with smoke detectors designed and located as required for new dwellings.”

**780 CMR 3404.12-** “Fire protection systems are required for the following cases:

(3) Existing buildings, or portions thereof which are substantially altered or renovated.”

#### **Detector Types:**

Detectors shall be hard-wired, interconnected with battery backup. Any detectors within 20 feet of a kitchen or bathroom containing a tub or shower shall be a photo electric type smoke detector.

#### **Locations:**

Single-Family Dwellings- Detectors shall be located;

- on the ceiling at the base of the stairs on every level of the dwelling unit.
- In the immediate vicinity of bedrooms.
- In all bedrooms (not closer than 12” to the wall).
- In residential units of 1200 square feet or more... smoke detectors shall be provided for each 1200 square feet of area or part thereof.

Two-Family Dwellings- Detectors shall be located in all areas listed above and;

- In all common basements.
- In all common hallways.
- In all common stairways on each level outside the dwelling unit doorways.

Each detection device shall cause the operation of an alarm that is clearly audible in all bedrooms over background noise levels with all intervening doors closed.

Detector activation in a dwelling unit shall not activate signals in any other dwelling unit or common areas.

#### **Fees:**

\$25 per 1,000 sq ft of plan review, maximum of \$200.

#### **Inspections:**

Rough inspection prior to rough framing, final and testing before final sign off on permit.