



**BUILDING
SAFETY MONTH**

2024



Week 2

Preparing a Building Safety Plan

**MISSION
POSSIBLE**



**BUILDING CODES: DRIVING GROWTH THROUGH
INNOVATION, RESILIENCE AND SAFETY**
RESILIENCE IN THE BUILDING CODES

Creating a resilient nation requires diligent planning and innovative thinking. Incorporating new technologies in current building practices to achieve higher resiliency is exciting but can be expensive. Thankfully, effectively utilizing current codes and standards throughout all phases of the building's lifecycle increases the efficacy of new building technologies and offers a cost effective path toward community stability during times of disaster. Resilience starts with strong, regularly updated, and properly implemented building codes.



PLANNING

Creating a Sustainable Community

- Provisions in the I-Codes include sustainability measures for the entire construction project and its site making buildings more efficient and less economically and environmentally wasteful.
- Building sustainably has effects that go beyond the walls and into the community – for example, car charging stations make it easier to own eco-friendly vehicles and smart grid demand response systems lower energy prices for the consumer and increase grid stability for the surrounding area.

RESPONSE

Ensuring Mental & Physical Health and Wellbeing

- Provisions in the I-Codes address mental and physical health and well-being from dealing with sanitation and pest control to designing buildings that respond to the latest science on mood and mental health.

RECOVERY

Efficient Disaster Mitigation & Recovery

- Provisions in the I-Codes address disaster preparedness and recovery – from how and where to build in flood plains to constructing buildings that can better withstand natural and manmade disasters.
- A study done by the Congressionally established National Institute of Building Sciences showed that adopting up-to-date codes saves \$11 for every \$1 invested. FEMA analysis also found that if all new U.S. buildings were built to modern editions of the I-Codes, the country would save more than \$600 billion by 2060.

RESILIENCE

Improving Building Life Cycles

- Provisions in the I-Codes enable changes to the systems inside the building or even the structure itself at some point after its initial construction and occupation including repair, alteration, change of occupancy, addition to and relocation of existing buildings.
- As communities change, so do the buildings they use. Updated codes allow buildings to adapt, keeping a sense of continuity while also reducing blight from outdated, unused buildings.

www.iccsafe.org

ALARM SAFETY TIPS

From Your Building Inspector



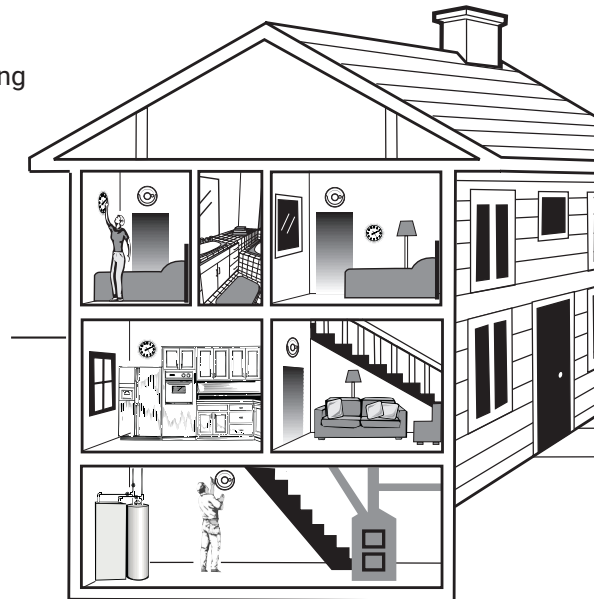
The Sound of Safety

What is the most important thing to remember when installing a smoke alarm or carbon monoxide alarm?

Location, location, location!

Smoke Alarm Safety

- Install at least one smoke alarm in every bedroom, outside of each sleeping room area and on each level of a multi-level building.
- Test each smoke alarm regularly.
- Keep batteries fresh by replacing them annually.
- Check the manufacturer date on your smoke alarm. Replace if it is over 10 years old.



Smoke alarms can't help you unless they are functional and you can hear them. Building safety codes require smoke alarms. Contact your local building safety department for more information.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarm Safety

- Install a CO alarm in the hallway outside of each sleeping room area and in bedrooms containing fuel burning appliances or fireplaces.
- Test each CO alarm regularly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Permanently wired or plug-in CO alarms should have a battery backup. Keep batteries fresh by replacing them annually.

CO alarms can't help you unless they are functional and you can hear them. Building safety codes require CO alarms in all dwelling units that contain a fuel-fired appliance and dwelling units that have an attached garage. Contact your local building safety department for more information.

