Smoke Alarms

Do you know Fairfax County’s Smoke Alarm rules?

(While requirements will differ based on the type of building, this is basic information to consider)

- Smoke Alarms may be required according to the following:
  - On the ceiling or wall outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of bedrooms.
  - In each room used for sleeping purposes.
  - In any building containing one (1) or more dwelling units regardless of when the building was constructed.
  - In each story within a dwelling unit, including basements and cellars but not crawl spaces and uninhabited attics.

- Always refer to the manufacture’s installation instructions for the device.

- Note: Smoke alarm batteries should be changed annually.

To report a possible violation OR for more information contact:

Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance
12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035
Phone: 703-324-1300, TTY 711
Web: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code

To request this information in an alternate format, call the Department of Code Compliance.

This Fairfax County, VA Publication (published September 2014) summarizes a few regulations. See relevant codes for specific requirements.