

ITEMS COMMONLY FOUND HAZARDOUS

Smoke Detectors: Smoke detectors are required in each sleeping room, and on each story or level of the dwelling including the basement area. Smoke detectors may be battery operated. All smoke detectors must be functioning.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors: Carbon Monoxide Detectors are required within 10 feet of each sleeping room. These detectors may be battery operated and must be functioning.

Backflow Prevention Devices: Common locations where a backflow prevention device is required:

- Outside garden hose connections.
- Laundry tubs having a faucet that is threaded for a hose connection.
- Hand-held shower sprayers that could hang into tub water.

Other locations where backflow or siphoning could occur are toilet ballcocks that are not located above the tank water line, any faucets that discharge below the spill line of its receptor, and lawn irrigation systems having improper backflow protection.

Garage Door Openers: Many garage door openers are plugged into extension cords. This type of wiring is a hazard. All garage door openers must be plugged directly into approved outlets. Other appliances that cannot be connected to extension cords are water softeners, window air conditioners, washing machines, clothes dryers, sump pumps and other “permanent” appliances. An electrical permit must be secured to install a new electrical outlet.

Electrical Fixtures/Cover Plates: Outlets and junction boxes with missing cover plates are a hazard. Adding the appropriate cover plate eliminates this hazard. Broken or cracked switches, outlets and fixtures are also considered a hazard and must be replaced.

Electrical Ground: Electrical systems must be properly grounded. One of the areas where grounding is required is around the water meter. A #6 wire (#4 if electrical service is 150 amp or greater) is required to be attached to the house side of the water meter with an approved clamp and also to the street side of the water meter with an approved clamp.

Gas Piping: Any gas piping for an appliance must have a gas shut-off valve within 3 feet of the appliance. Flexible gas piping is not permitted, except stainless steel flexible piping, which is allowed for stoves.