



HAP CHECK NEWS

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH OWNER NEWSLETTER

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CA Law To Require Carbon Monoxide Detectors

In May 2010, the state of California enacted a law (SB183), requiring homeowners to install carbon monoxide detectors in their homes as of July 1, 2011. The new law is aimed at preventing deaths and injuries caused by poisoning from the odorless, colorless gas.

The July 2011 timeline applies only to single-family homes that have appliances that burn fossil fuels (e.g. wood, gas and oil) or homes that have attached garages or fireplaces. For all other types of housing, such as apartments and hotels, detectors should be placed as of January 1, 2013.

According to the Senate Bill, the detector must sound an audible warning once carbon monoxide is detected. It must also be powered by a battery, or if it is plugged in, have a battery for a backup.

The California law also states that anyone who does not comply with the law may face a \$200 fine.

Starting on July 1, 2011, Housing Authority inspectors will be enforcing the carbon monoxide detector requirement as part of their inspections, to ensure that owners are in compliance with the new law.

Helpful Hints from the Inspectors

We may not be Heloise, but here are a few helpful hints on inexpensive cleaning solutions that you may find useful and perhaps even want to share with your tenants.

- Window Cleaners - If you would like your windows to sparkle, don't buy blue or green tinted solution from the grocery store. Instead, mix one-part vinegar to two-part water and pour into a spray bottle to apply. For an extra strength window solution, try mixing three tablespoons of ammonia to one-part vinegar and two cups of water. For lint free windows, use coffee filters or newspaper to clean instead of a cloth.
- Stain removers – If you spill on carpets, furniture or clothing and a stain is left behind, don't panic. Make up a solution of one-part

vinegar, one part mild dishwashing liquid and two parts water. Pour this onto the stain and blot until the stain is lifted. For a greasy stain, first pour baking soda or cornstarch directly on the stain and leave for an hour to absorb the grease. Vacuum the powder and use your homemade spot cleaner for any residue left behind.

- Clean mildew from shower and tub – mix one-part vinegar and one part water and pour into a spray bottle. Spray onto walls and tile and wipe with a sponge to remove.
- Scouring powder – Combine equal parts salt and baking soda. This makes a great scrub for the kitchen and bath.
- Cleaner – For a product that cleans walls, counters, floors and many other areas, try filling a large jug with one half gallon water, one half cup of vinegar and one quarter cup of baking soda. This can be poured into spray bottles and stored for a couple of months.
- Grout cleaner – Clean dirt and mildew out of bathroom or kitchen grout with a solution of one part hydrogen peroxide to one part water. Spray this onto the grout and let it sit for 30 minutes. Sponge off and repeat if necessary.

Signing-up for Direct Deposit

Please note that when signing up for direct deposit or making a change to your direct deposit account, depending when you send in the request, it can take up to two payment cycles until the direct deposit becomes effective.

During this time if you are owed funds, you will receive a check. If you have any questions, please contact Royce Bell at 562-570-6349 or send her an email at Royce.Bell@longbeach.gov.

Using direct deposit saves us both time and money!

Upcoming Holidays

The Housing Authority Bureau will be closed for the holidays as follows: Friday, December 24th for Christmas and Friday, December 31st for New Year's Day.

Happy Holidays!

