

# **NORTH VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE PREVENTION OFFICERS SECTION**

Representing A United Effort In North Valley Fire Prevention

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**Date:** 10-17-2011

**Contact:** Local Fire Department, contacts listed below

**RE: Direct Mail Advertisements for Carbon Monoxide detectors – Consumer Alert**

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## **Consumer Alert**

Several participating agencies in the North Valley Fire Prevention Officers Section have been contacted by citizens regarding mail solicitations for Carbon Monoxide detectors that have arrived over the last week or so. The mailing states home owners may face a \$200 dollar fine if Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors are not installed. The advertisement goes on to offer a Carbon Monoxide detector for sale for \$76.00.

The North Valley Fire Prevention Officers Section urges citizens to be **cautious consumers** and know the facts.

- As of July 1, 2011 a new state law does require CO detectors to be installed in all single family homes with fuel burning appliances or attached garages. Multi-family dwellings must have a CO detector installed no later than January 1, 2013.
- The law does contain a provision for a fine of \$200.00 for failure to comply with the law. However, the fine may only be imposed after a 30 day “notice to correct” has been issued to the property owner.
- Member agencies of the North Valley Fire Prevention Officers Section anticipate enforcement of these provisions only at the time of property sale or transfer.
- During construction the installation of CO detectors will be enforced by local Building Departments.
- UL listed CO detectors approved for sale by the California State Fire Marshal are widely available at local home improvement centers and hardware stores. Consumers are urged to compare prices and features of different models available for sale to pick the best devices to meet their budget and needs.

Citizens with any concerns or questions regarding the direct mailing advertisement or regarding the new Carbon Monoxide detector law in California are urged to contact their local fire department.

For questions contact your local fire department:



Paradise Fire Department  
Butte County Fire Department/*CAL FIRE*  
Oroville Fire Department  
Chico Fire Department  
Yuba City Fire Department  
Gridley Fire Department  
Hamilton City Fire Department

(530) 872-6265  
(530) 538-7888  
(530) 538-2480  
(530) 897-4900  
(530) 822-4686  
(530) 846-1000  
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