Homes built after 1/1/2013:

Smoke alarms shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72 (2010 Edition). CO Alarms shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 720 (2012 Edition). These are essentially the same locations as 2004—2012.

Location of smoke alarms for houses built before 2/20/2004:

Pre 12/76—battery operated
After 1/1/77—hardwired with battery backup, interconnected

Location of CO alarms is outside sleeping rooms within 10 feet of the bedroom door.

Pre 1/1/02—battery operated
After 1/1/02—hardwired & interconnected

Location of smoke alarms for houses built after 2/20/2004:

Place one smoke alarm on every floor and sleeping room

Location of the hardwired, interconnected CO alarms is on each level and outside sleeping rooms within 10 feet of the bedroom door.

All smoke alarms to be replaced 10 yrs, CO 7 yrs & combo alarms 10 yrs after they were manufactured unless manufacturer's specifications require earlier replacement.

Base diagram from the Louisiana Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections.
One and Two Family Homes
General Smoke & CO Alarm Information

The type, number and location of smoke alarms you need in your home depends on when it was built. This information is from RI General Law, the R.I. Fire Safety Code, NFPA 72 and NFPA 720 which are national standards adopted as law in R.I.

1). Where both smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are required, combination devices are permitted.

2). Where smoke alarms are required, household fire alarm systems, in accordance with NFPA 72 are permitted.

3). Plug in carbon monoxide alarms are PROHIBITED in R.I. in accordance with R.I. Fire Code chapter 24.6.3.1.2., use combo smoke/CO or wall mounted CO alarms.

4). Smoke alarms are not to be installed within 3 ft. of bathroom door or 10 ft. of a stove; if within 10 & 20 ft. must be photoelectric or have alarm silencing feature.

5). Smoke alarms should be mounted on the ceiling for fastest activation & best protection. If this is impossible, mount smoke alarm on wall 4" to 12" from ceiling.

6). In multi-family homes, maintenance of alarms is the owner's responsibility by law.

7). Inspection cost is $30 each visit. Schedule 2 weeks in advance. Smoke/CO Certificates are good for 120 days. Re-inspections are $60 EACH. (RILSC 24.6.3.1.3.1 & 1.4)

8). PLEASE NOTE: These are minimum standards. We recommend smoke alarms in each bedroom. PFD STRONGLY recommends two-family homes with shared egress have smoke alarms at each stair landing.

ALARM LOCATION REQUIREMENTS
PER R.I. FIRE SAFETY CODE INTERPRETATION #13-01:

Homes built in 1976 or prior:
Smoke Alarms shall be installed outside sleeping areas and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements) at the bottom of each stairway.

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms can be battery operated.

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms are not required to be interconnected.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms shall be installed outside sleeping areas within 10 ft. of the bedroom door and on each level.

Homes built after 1/1/2002 through February 19, 2004:
Smoke Alarms shall be installed outside sleeping areas and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements) at the bottom of each stairway.

Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup and interconnected.

CO Alarms shall be installed outside sleeping areas within 10 ft. of the bedroom door and on each level. They shall be hardwired with battery backup and interconnected.

Homes built after 2/20/2004 through 12/31/2012:
Smoke Alarms shall be installed inside each bedroom, outside sleeping areas and on each level of the dwelling unit(s) (including basements) at the bottom of each stairway.

Smoke Alarms shall be hard-wired with battery backup and interconnected.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms shall be installed outside each sleeping area within 10 feet of the bedroom door and on each level of the dwelling unit including basements.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms shall be hard-wired w/ battery backup & interconnected.