

# Carbon Monoxide Safety

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that is produced from fuel burning appliances in and around the home, an oil furnace, a natural gas water heater and even a lawn mower.

**Carbon monoxide is responsible for more deaths than any other single poison.**



## **Precautionary Measures**

- At the beginning of every heating season, you should have all fuel-burning appliances checked by a qualified technician
- Also, inspect all chimneys and flues to ensure they are connected and free from blockages.
- Install carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your home, near the ceiling within 5 feet of gas fueled appliances
- Install and maintain appliances according to manufacturer's instructions
- Never idle cars in the garage whether the garage door is open or not
- Never use a charcoal grill indoors
- Do not use any gasoline-powered engines in enclosed spaces

## **Never use a gas oven to heat your home**

### **Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Symptoms**

Low levels of carbon monoxide poisoning can be confused with flu symptoms. Some symptoms include:

- Shortness of breath
- Mild nausea
- Mild headaches

Moderate levels of Carbon monoxide exposure can cause death if the following symptoms persist:

- Headaches
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Light-headedness

High levels of carbon monoxide can be deadly within minutes.

### **What to do when your CO detector sounds?**

- Call 9-1-1
- All fuel-burning equipment should be turned off until checked by a qualified professional
- It is important to open all windows to ventilate the home with fresh air
- Evacuate the house

Anyone who is experiencing symptoms should go to the emergency room to be immediately checked.

### **What type of carbon monoxide detector should you use?**

The best type of carbon monoxide detector is one that has a low-level indicator. This will help you guard against any health risks.