



SAFETY TIPS FOR REDUCING THE RISK OF CO

When you are buying home heating or cooking equipment, purchase only products that bear the label of an independent testing laboratory. Have all fuel-burning appliances (furnaces, stoves, space heaters, dryers, and water heaters) professionally installed and maintained. **More tips:**

- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it.
- Do not run a vehicle, generator or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open.
- Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- Make sure your wood or coal-burning stove or fire place is properly ventilated directly into the chimney flue.
- Maintain your stove and adjust the draft so that the wood and coal burns efficiently.
- Be sure the chimney flue is fully open when you use your fireplace.
- Have all chimneys cleaned and inspected once a year.
- Have your fuel-burning home heating system (fireplaces, furnaces, water heaters, wood & coal stoves); including the flue, inspected by a professional before each heating season.
- Keep dryer, stove, furnace, and fireplace vents clear of ice, snow, dirt, leaves and other debris.
- When buying a home, have the heating and cooking systems inspected for CO, and have the seals between an attached garage and the home inspected as well.



Countryside Fire Protection District

Chuck Smith
Fire Chief

Station 1
801 S. Midlothian Road
Mundelein, IL 60060

Station 2
Headquarters
600 N. Deerpath Drive
Vernon Hills, IL 60061
Office: (847) 367-5511
Fax: (847) 367-5521

In emergencies,
call 911.



**COUNTRYSIDE FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

Carbon Monoxide Alarms



Listening for the Silent Killer

www.countrysidefire.com

WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE?

Carbon monoxide alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms. Know the difference between the sound of a smoke alarm and the sound of a CO alarm.

Maintenance.

Each year hundreds of people die from carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. Many of these deaths could have been prevented by installing CO alarms in the home. CO is an invisible, odorless gas that is produced by burning wood, coal, charcoal, natural gas, gasoline, propane, oil, methane and other common fuels.

CO is also produced by automobiles and other gasoline or diesel engines. Electrical equipment does not produce carbon monoxide.



What is the Danger?

CO enters your body, undetected, through your breathing. CO poisoning can be confused with the flu, food poisoning or other illnesses. Symptoms include: headache, nausea, dizziness, light-headedness or shortness of breath.

High levels of CO can cause death within just a few minutes. A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.

When a CO alarm sounds, go to a fresh air location & immediately **CALL 9-1-1**

Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home.

CO alarms can be battery-powered, plugged into an outlet or hard-wired into a home's electrical system.

Buy only CO alarms that bear the label of an independent testing laboratory, and install CO alarm in a central location outside your home's sleeping areas. If sleeping areas are spaced far apart, each area will need a CO alarm.

When you hear the sound of a CO alarm?

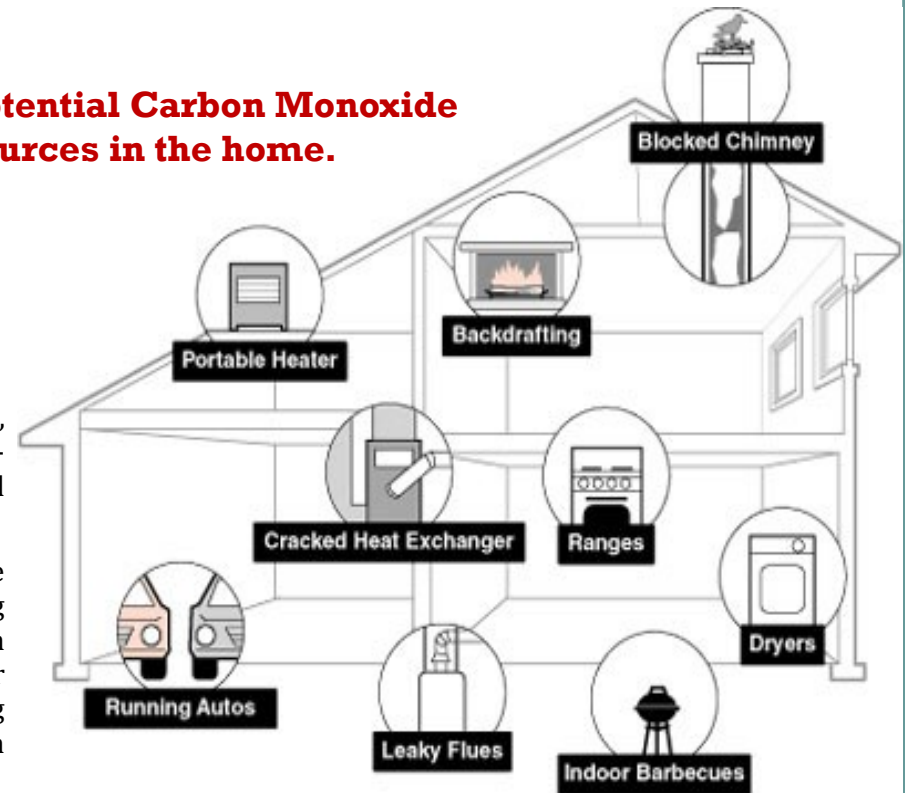
If the CO warning signal sounds, immediately go to a fresh air location and call for help.

Stay at the fresh air location until emergency personnel tell you it is safe.

If the trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries or other problems.

Be sure everyone in your household knows the difference between the sound of a smoke alarm & a CO alarm.

Potential Carbon Monoxide Sources in the home.



Test CO alarms at least once a month and replace them according to manufacturer's instructions.