

FACT:

- Often called the silent killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil and methane) burn incompletely.
- In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel are potential sources of carbon monoxide.
- Vehicles or generators running in an attached garage can also produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

For more information contact:

Spring Lake Fire Department



300 Ruth Street

PO Box 617

Spring Lake, NC 28390

Non-emergency number:(910) 436 - 0337

Fax: (910) 436 - 1083

www.spring-lake.org



Carbon Monoxide

Promotion, Prevention, Protection



Know the Symptoms of CO Poisoning...

Physical symptoms of CO poisoning vary, depending on the amount of CO in the bloodstream. The higher the concentration, the greater the danger.

MILD EXPOSURE

- Slight Headache
- Fatigue
- Nausea
- Flu-Like Symptoms
- Vomiting

MEDIUM EXPOSURE

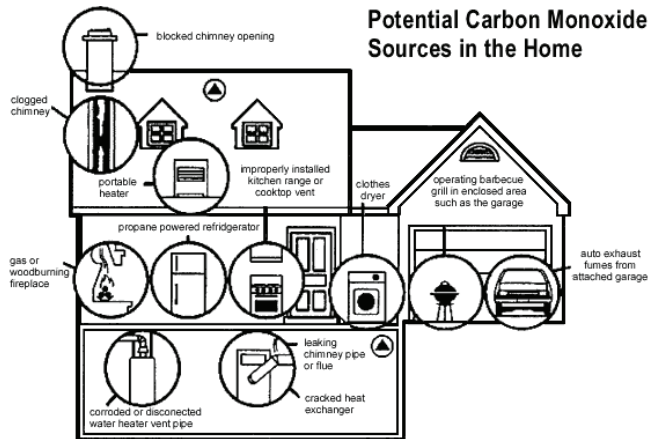
- Severe Headache
- Confusion
- Drowsiness
- Rapid Heart Rate

SEVERE EXPOSURE

- Unconsciousness
- Cardiac/Respiratory Failure
- Convulsions
- Death

- The dangers of CO exposure depend on a number of variables, including the victim's health and activity level. Infants, pregnant women and people with physical conditions that limit their body's ability to use oxygen (i.e. emphysema, asthma, heart disease) can be more severely affected by lower concentrations of CO than healthy adults would be.
- 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.

In 2005, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 61,100 non-fire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found or an average of seven such calls per hour. The number of incidents increased 18% from 51,700 reported in 2003. This increase is most likely due to the increased use of CO detectors.

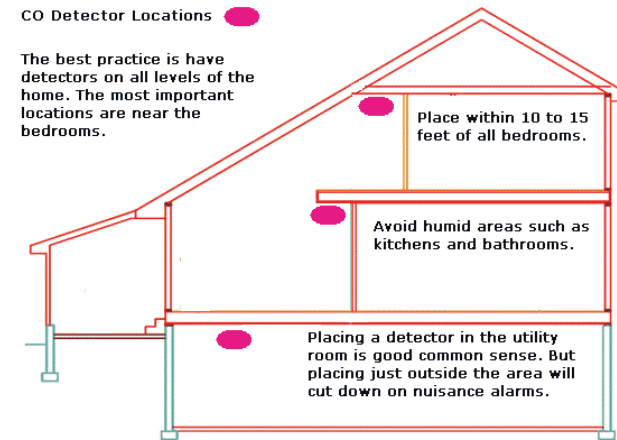


SAFETY TIPS:

- CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.
- Choose a CO alarm that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Call your local fire department's non-emergency number to find out what number to call if the CO alarm sounds.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.

CO Detector Locations

The best practice is have detectors on all levels of the home. The most important locations are near the bedrooms.



SAFETY TIPS:

- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it, if it still sounds, call the fire department.
- If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel arrives.
- If you need a warm vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure exhaust pipe is not covered with anything.
- During and after a storm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of debris and build-up.
- A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO—only use outside.

