

# Carbon Monoxide Safety



Carbon Monoxide (CO) is often called the 'Silent Killer'; it is an invisible, colourless, odorless gas that is produced when carbon-based fuels (such as Wood, Propane, Natural Gas, Heating Oil, Coal, Kerosene, Charcoal, and Gasoline) burn incompletely. It can be dangerous, even at low exposure levels.

- CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound. Follow applicable laws, codes or Standards for other alarm locations.
- They should be placed and mounted according to Manufacturer's instructions.
- They should be tested regularly, according to the Manufacturer's instructions.
- If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel arrive.



## Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:

### Mild Exposure

Flu-like symptoms such as headache, running nose, sore eyes, nausea, etc.

### Medium Exposure

Drowsiness, dizziness, vomiting, chest pain, poor visibility, confusion, and disorientation.

### Extreme Exposure

Unconsciousness, convulsions, brain damage, and death.

**In Canada approximately 1,000 reports of poisoning and 250 deaths each year are caused by Carbon Monoxide.**

