



Village of Fox Crossing Fire Department

Public Education Division

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Carbon Monoxide (CO) Safety

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless, gas known as “The Silent Killer”. Carbon monoxide is also referred to as CO but is commonly mistaken as CO₂.

Carbon monoxide poisoning can occur anywhere. It is produced by the incomplete combustion in fuel-burning devices such as motor vehicles, gas-powered furnaces, and portable generators.

A carbon monoxide (CO) alarm is the best protection against CO. It sounds an alarm when the level of CO reaches unacceptable levels in the air. Without testing instruments (alarms), CO is virtually impossible to detect. Be sure the alarm is UL approved under standard 2034 or IAS 6-96.

Also, remember, CO detectors/alarms are NOT a substitute for smoke alarms!

Did you know that Wisconsin now has a carbon monoxide law? See below for more information!

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Life Safety Tips

<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Symptoms of CO poisoning include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Dizziness, ringing in the ears○ Blurred vision, burning eyes○ Appearance of being intoxicated○ Throbbing headaches○ Tightness across forehead○ Pale skin○ Nausea/vomiting○ Confused/disoriented/loss of muscle control○ Fatigue/fainting/unconsciousness○ Shortness of breath○ Chest pain (angina) when exercising○ Rapid heartbeat/pulse○ Fluttering or throbbing○ heart/tightening of chest○ Sudden death✓ CO is extremely toxic and deadly!	<p style="text-align: center;">Did you know...?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ The number of CO incidents that fire departments responded to and found CO upon testing, nearly doubled from 40,300 calls in 2003 to 80,100 in 2010.✓ December and January are the most common months for CO related issues. However, CO can be produced and found at anytime of the year.✓ CO issues normally arise in the early evening hours—typically between supper and bedtime.✓ According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, 189 people died of unintentional CO poisoning in 2008.✓ Many states have laws regarding CO detectors/alarms. Please make sure you are an abiding citizen!
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Public Education: Our First Line of Defense!