

Special Report: Carbon Monoxide

Last Updated: Wednesday, September 15th, 1999, Created: Wednesday, September 15th, 1999

88% of all homes have something that poses a Carbon Monoxide threat.

What is Carbon Monoxide?

Carbon Monoxide is a colourless, odourless and tasteless gas that is a by-product of incomplete combustion of flammable fuels.

Potential Sources of Carbon Monoxide in your home:

- Gas or Oil Furnace
- Gas or Kerosene Space Heater
- Wood Stove
- Fireplace
- Attached Garage
- Gas Water Heater
- Gas Appliances

Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:

Early Warning Signs

- Headache
- Nausea
- Dizziness
- Fatigue

High Exposure Levels Can Cause:

- Severe Headaches
- Vomiting
- Vision and Hearing impairment
- Mental Confusion
- Convulsions
- Breathing difficulties
- Unconsciousness
- Brain Damage
- Coma
- Death

Prevention

- 1) Have your fuel-burning appliances inspected by a qualified technician annually.
- 2) Have your chimney and flue cleaned professionally.
- 3) Do not run your car in an attached garage.
- 4) Allow proper ventilation in any room that could pose a Carbon Monoxide threat.

CMHC and Health Canada both have information on the dangers of Carbon Monoxide in homes.

Keywords:

Alarms, Carbon Monoxide, Environmental, Health, Safety

