

### What should you do?

- Ensure proper installation, operation and maintenance of appliances in the home.
- Most appliances should be installed by professionals.
- Always follow the appliance manufacturer's directions for safe operation.
- Have the heating system (including chimneys and vents) inspected and serviced annually by a trained service technician.
- Examine vents and chimneys regularly for improper connections, visible cracks, rust or stains.
- Operate portable generators outdoors and away from open windows, doors, and vents.
- Install battery operated/plug-in CO alarms
- Test CO alarms frequently and replace batteries.
- Look for problems that could indicate improper appliance operations:
  - Decreased hot water supply
  - Furnace unable to heat house or runs continuously
  - Sooting, especially on appliances and vents
  - Unfamiliar, or burning odor
  - Increased moisture inside of windows

### CARBON MONOXIDE KNOW THE SIGNS!

- ✓ HEADACHE
- ✓ DIZZINESS
- ✓ NAUSEA
- ✓ BREATHLESSNESS
- ✓ COLLAPSE
- ✓ LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS

**If you suspect that you are experiencing CO poisoning, remove yourself from the home and call 911. Call the fire department to determine when it is safe to reenter the home.**

To report a dangerous product or a product related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800)638-2772 or CPSC teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270. Consumers can obtain recall information at CPSC's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov>. Consumers can report product hazards at [info@cpsc.gov](mailto:info@cpsc.gov).

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# DANGER!

### What is carbon monoxide?

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is the "invisible" killer. Carbon monoxide is a colorless and odorless gas that is produced by burning fuel. Every year more than 100 people in the United States die from unintentional exposure to carbon monoxide associated with consumer products.

- Never leave a car running in a garage even with the garage door open.
- Never run a generator in the home, garage, or crawlspace. Opening doors and windows or using fans will **NOT** prevent CO build-up in the home. When running a generator outdoors, keep it away from open windows and doors.
- Never burn charcoal in homes, tents, vehicles, or garages.
- Never install or service combustion appliances without proper knowledge, skills, and tools.
- Never use a gas range, oven, or dryer for heating.
- Never put foil on bottom of a gas oven because it interferes with combustion.
- Never operate an unvented gas-burning appliance in a closed room or in which you are sleeping.



#### CLUES YOU CAN SEE

- Rusting or water streaking on vent/chimney
- Loose or missing furnace panel
- Sooting
- Debris or soot falling from chimney, fireplace or appliances
- Loose or disconnected vent/chimney, fireplace, or appliance
- Loose masonry on chimney
- Moisture inside of windows

#### CLUES YOU CANNOT SEE

- Internal appliance damage or malfunctioning components
  - Improper burner adjustments
  - Hidden blockage or damage in chimneys
- Only a trained service technician can detect hidden problems and correct these conditions!**
- CO poisoning symptoms have been experienced when you are home, but they lessen or disappear when you are away from home

