

TEN SAFETY TIPS

PROTECTION AGAINST CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

1



Shut off automobile motor and take keys out of the ignition as soon as your car is parked in the garage. Make this a safety habit to insure that no CO fumes can get into your home if the garage is attached. Always warm up the vehicle outside of your house, never in the garage.

2



Have your vehicle inspected at least once a year for exhaust leaks.

Remember... you can not see, taste, or smell poisonous carbon monoxide gas.

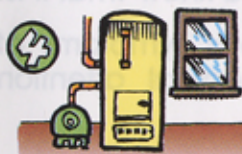
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Have all fuel-burning equipment checked each year to make certain combustion is clean and that there are no risks of CO leakage.

Do it before the start of the heating season.

4



Be sure heating equipment is located where an adequate supply of fresh air is available for safe combustion.

5



When in use, be sure to open the flue to make sure the fireplace is safely vented.

6

Kerosene heaters are illegal in many states. Make sure they are legal in your state before buying or using one.



If legal, always refuel the heater out of doors, after it has cooled off. Open windows slightly when heater is in use.

7



Gas-fired barbeque grills give off dangerous CO fumes. They must never be used inside a house or garage... not even with the garage door open.

8



When buying new heating or cooking equipment, choose only units with approval by an independent testing laboratory.

Never accept equipment that is damaged. Have a qualified technician install the equipment and be sure all applicable fire safety and building codes are followed.

9



When buying a new home, have a qualified inspector make sure that all heating and cooking systems are in safe working order without risk of CO leakage. Also, the garage must be adequately sealed off from the rest of the house.

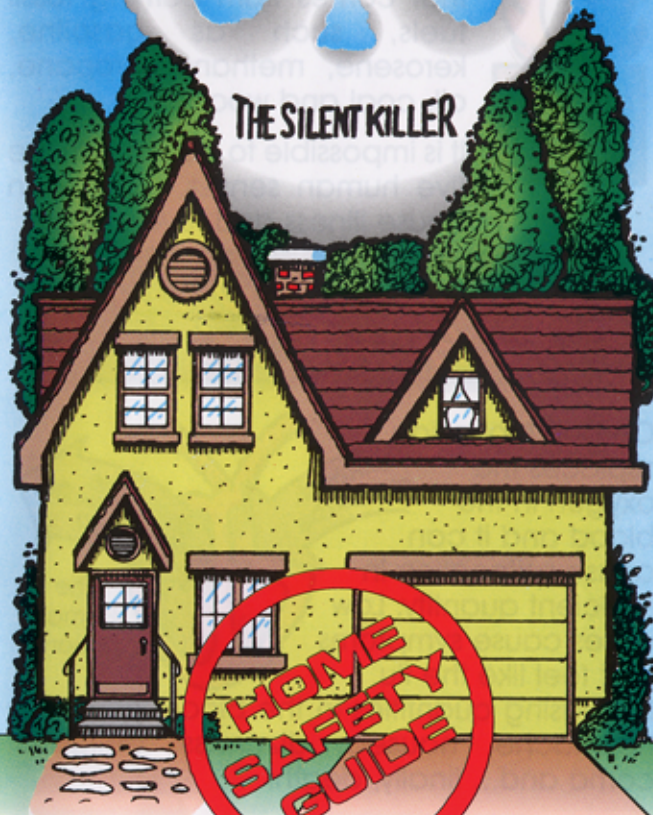
10



When camping, use only battery powered heaters and lights in tents, trailers, or motor homes. Never use fuel burning appliances inside!

CARBON MONOXIDE

THE SILENT KILLER



LAFAYETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT

"OUR FAMILY HELPING YOUR FAMILY"

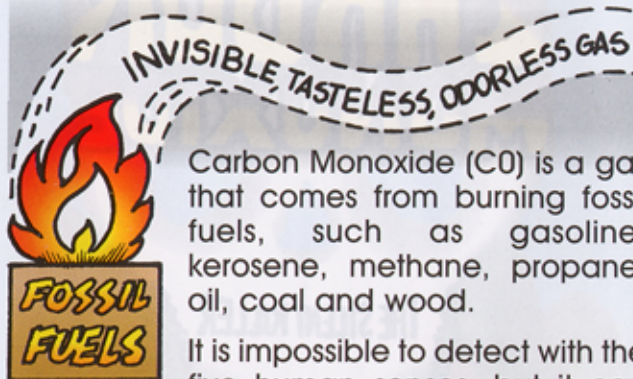


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WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE?

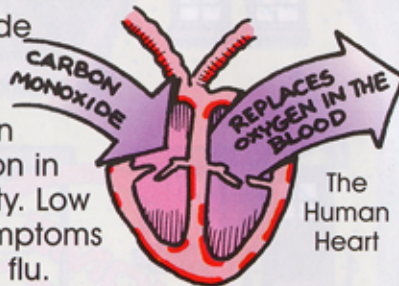


Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a gas that comes from burning fossil fuels, such as gasoline, kerosene, methane, propane, oil, coal and wood.

It is impossible to detect with the five human senses, but it can cause illness and, even death.

HOW DOES CO GAS HARM US?

Carbon Monoxide replaces the oxygen in the blood and it can cause suffocation in sufficient quantity. Low doses cause symptoms that feel like the flu. Increasing quantities in the blood will cause headache, nausea, dizziness, collapse, coma and... finally, death!

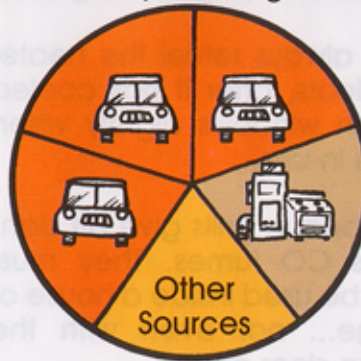


WHAT ARE THE SOURCES OF CARBON MONOXIDE?

Poisonous Carbon Monoxide enters household air generally from 3 different areas where fossil fuels are burning:-

- 1.) Automobile emissions
- 2.) Home heating equipment
- 3.) Cooking stoves

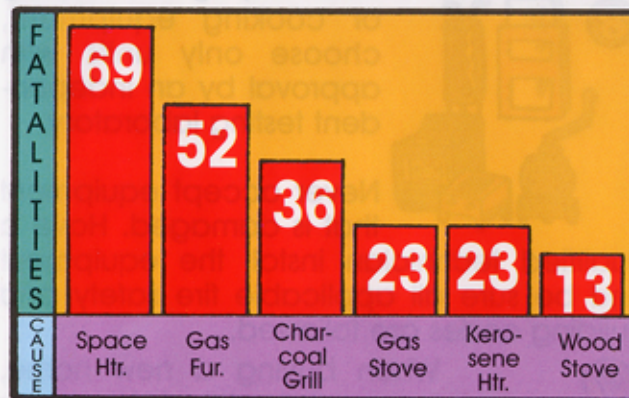
Of these three, automobile emissions claim the most victims. Out of 700 people who died from CO poisoning in a recent year 60% (three fifths) of those deaths were caused by auto emissions!



20% (one fifth) were caused by heating or cooking equipment.

20% (one fifth) from other sources.

A survey of fatalities due to heating and cooking equipment revealed the following comparison of causes:-



NOTE: The risk of CO poisoning is higher for infants, 4 years old or less, and for the elderly, 75 years or more.

KNOW WHERE THE DANGERS ARE



Automobile engines accounted for 60% of all fatalities in a recent survey.

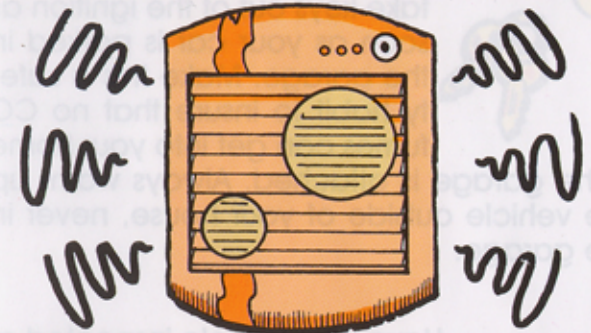


Heating and cooking equipment accounted for another 20%.



Miscellaneous fossil-fueled items made up the balance.

WHAT ARE CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS?



Carbon Monoxide detectors are electronic warning devices that sound an alarm when the CO gas in the air reaches a health-threatening level... even before actual symptoms of poisoning may be noticed.

Always treat every sounded alarm as a real threat. Then, do the following:-



1.) When the alarm sounds, get out at once, leaving the doors open behind you.



2.) Use a phone outside the home to notify the Fire Dept. They may have a separate number for CO alarms. Be sure you know what it is.



3.) If anyone shows symptoms of poisoning get medical attention immediately.



Remember... if your units are battery operated, be sure to test them regularly according to the manufacturer's specifications.

NOTE: A CO Detector is no substitute for the proper use and maintenance of heating and cooking equipment.