

# Carbon Monoxide Alarms

## What is carbon monoxide (CO)?

Carbon monoxide is a poisonous gas that can kill you if inhaled.

- ◆ You cannot see it
- ◆ You cannot smell it
- ◆ You cannot taste it

It is sometimes called the “*silent killer*” because it can take your life without warning.

SCRATCH & SNIFF HERE

Smell anything?  
CO is odorless.

## What are the symptoms of CO poisoning?

Symptoms of CO poisoning are flu-like, including headache, fatigue, nausea, dizziness and confusion. Prolonged exposure can result in vomiting, blackouts and eventually, brain damage and death. If your alarm sounds and you or anyone in your household experiences any of these symptoms...**call 911**.

## Where should CO detectors be installed?

- ◆ You should install a CO detector on every level of your home with one near any sleeping areas.
- ◆ Detectors should be installed in accordance with manufacturer’s directions.

## Where does CO come from?

- ◆ Fuel-fired furnaces (not electric)
- ◆ Gas water heaters
- ◆ Fireplaces & wood stoves
- ◆ Gas stoves
- ◆ Non-electric space heaters
- ◆ Gas dryers
- ◆ Charcoal grills
- ◆ Lawnmowers, snow blowers, etc.
- ◆ Automobiles
- ◆ Gas powered generators

*Since carbon monoxide is colorless, odorless and tasteless, the best way to alert your family is to install a CO detector to warn of the gas’s build-up*



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