



Families & Health Safety Shorts

West Virginia University Extension Service — Safety & Health Extension

October 2008

Carbon Monoxide Producers

Carbon Monoxide

Carbon Monoxide Facts

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a deadly gas that is difficult to detect because it is odorless and invisible. As a result it is often referred to as “the silent killer.” According to the U.S. Consumer Safety Commission (CPSC), this poisonous gas kills nearly 300 people each year.

CO is produced by fuel-burning appliances and equipment in our homes. If you have any thing using fuels such as oil, natural gas, coal, wood, propane, and gasoline etc. then your home is at risk for potential CO poisoning.



Manage Your Risk!

- Purchase and install at least one CO alarm in your home, near the sleeping area.
- Use appliances and equipment according to the manufacturer. For example, never heat with a cooking stove.
- Never use a gas grill indoors or in the garage.
- Electric generators must never be used inside or in enclosed spaces.
- Back vehicles out of the garage when warming them up.
- Have a trained professional inspect, clean and tune-up your oil or gas fired heating system and water heater.
- Have a professional sweep inspect and clean your chimney at least once a year.
- Kerosene and gas heaters should always be used according to the manufacturer and with ventilation.

What are the symptoms of CO poisoning ?

Symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to symptoms of the flu and can include headache, dizziness, nausea and shortness of breath. If you feel better after leaving your home and worse when you return, it may be CO poisoning.

What if you suspect CO poisoning ?

- **Get the family outside quickly.**
- **Call 911**



For more information contact:

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Organization

Organization Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Address Line 4

Tel: 555 555 5555

Mobile: 555-555-5555

Fax: 555 555 5555

E-mail: someone@example.com

Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Mailing Address Line 5

TAG LINE GOES HERE.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Back Page Story Headline

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a

good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month,

or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.