CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS:

Only carbon monoxide alarms bearing the *"CSA International CAN/CGA 6.19"* standard or the *"Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) 2034"* standard are recommended by the Carbon Monoxide Safety Association. At least one CO alarm should be installed at knee-height, adjacent to the sleeping area of your home. You may need more than one CO alarm if the sleeping areas of your home are on different levels. CO alarms should not be installed near smoke alarms or any fuel burning appliances. Please refer to the manufacturer's instructions for further details regarding proper use and maintenance.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CO ALARM ACTIVATES:

- Get everyone outdoors immediately
- Call 911 from a safe location
- It is preferred that you leave all windows and doors closed after everyone has left the house. This will allow a more accurate reading of CO levels to be measured when emergency services respond. Any open windows or doors will allow CO gases to dissipate before the arrival of emergency crews.

HELPING MAKE OUR COMMUNITY SAFER!

CITY OF DIXON
FIRE DEPARTMENT
205 Ford Way
Dixon, Ca. 95620
Telephone: (707) 678-7060
www.ci.dixon.ca.us

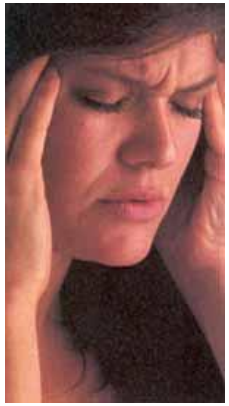
CARBON MONOXIDE

What Is Carbon Monoxide (CO)?

WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)?

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a toxic gas that can occur in homes and buildings. It is colourless, odourless, tasteless, and non-irritating. CO is a poison and can be deadly at high levels. At low levels, CO can go undetected and contribute to nagging illnesses. It can compound pre-existing health problems and often times goes overlooked in premature deaths.

HOW CO AFFECTS THE BODY:



CO is inhaled into the lungs and bonds with haemoglobin in the blood which forms carboxy-haemoglobin (COHb). This condition limits the ability of the blood to carry oxygen and affects all major organs and muscles. Extended exposure or brief high level exposure to CO can lead to unconsciousness, brain damage, or death.

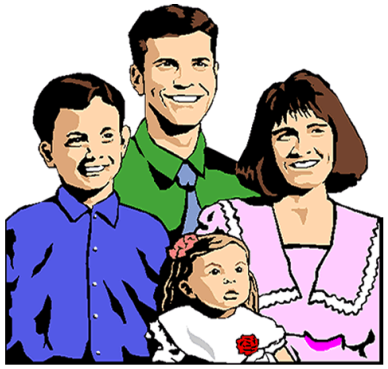
Early warning signs of CO poisoning are headaches, nausea, dizziness, shortness of breath, flu like symptoms and confusion.

HIGH-RISK GROUPS FOR CO POISONING INCLUDE:

- Infants/Children
- Pregnant Women
- Elderly People
- Heart Patients
- Anyone who has breathing problems
- Those with Anaemic Conditions

HOW CO IS PRODUCED?

Carbon monoxide is produced by the incomplete combustion of fuels. This occurs when there is not enough oxygen mixed with fuel. All fuel burning appliances have the potential to produce CO in varying concentrations. CO can result from improperly vented or malfunctioning combustion appliances.



COMMON SOURCES OF CO IN A RESIDENCE:

- Unvented cooking appliances
- Wood burning stoves
- Gas, oil, wood furnaces
- Water heaters
- Attached garages
- Gas or oil heaters
- Gas clothes dryers
- Barbeque grills
- Chimneys
- Unvented heaters