

## HOW CAN I PREVENT CO POISONING?

- ✓ Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas, oil or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.
- ✓ Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters (catalytic) indoors. Although these heaters don't have a flame, they burn gas and can cause CO to build up inside your home, cabin or camper.
- ✓ Never use a gas range or oven to heat your home.
- ✓ Never use a portable gas camp stove inside.
- ✓ Never use a generator inside your home, basement or garage.
- ✓ Never use a generator near a window, door or vent.
- ✓ Regularly maintain chimneys, flues and dampers.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jefferson County Environmental  
Public Health Consortium  
a collaborative of  
Jefferson County Health Dept.  
1541 Annex Road  
Jefferson, WI 53549  
and the  
Watertown Dept. of Public Health  
515 S. First Street  
Watertown, WI 53094  
920-262-8090

or contact:  
Brian Juarez  
Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator  
101 N. Main Street  
Fort Atkinson, WI, 53538  
920-563-7760  
Email: [bj Suarez@fortatkinsonwi.net](mailto:bj Suarez@fortatkinsonwi.net)

## WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INSTALLING & MAINTAINING THE ALARMS?

Owners are responsible for alarm installations and occupants have responsibility to maintain the alarms.

Authorized inspectors may enter dwelling to inspect alarms when requested by the owner or occupants.

Tampering with alarms is illegal, dangerous and can cause serious liability concerns.

**Carbon  
Monoxide  
DANGER!**



**Information from:  
Jefferson County  
Environmental  
Public Health  
Consortium**

## WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE?

Carbon Monoxide, or CO, is an odorless, colorless gas that can cause sudden illness and death. CO is found in combustion fumes, such as those produced by cars and trucks, small gasoline engines, stoves, lanterns, burning charcoal and wood, gas ranges and heating systems.

## WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF CO POISONING?

- ✓ Headache
- ✓ Dizziness
- ✓ Weakness
- ✓ Nausea & Vomiting
- ✓ Chest Pain
- ✓ Confusion

High levels of CO inhalation can cause loss of consciousness and death. Unless suspected, CO poisoning can be difficult to diagnose because the symptoms mimic other illnesses. People who are sleeping can die from CO poisoning before ever experiencing symptoms.



## CARBON MONOXIDE REQUIREMENT FOR ALARMS

**AS OF FEB. 1, 2011, CO ALARMS ARE REQUIRED IN ALL ONE & TWO FAMILY HOMES & IN COMMERCIAL AND MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES**

### ONE & TWO FAMILY HOMES

- CO detectors shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- CO detectors are required in all dwellings that have any of the following: an attached garage, a fireplace or fuel burning appliances.
- CO detectors shall be installed on every floor level of a dwelling including the basement.
- CO detectors may be battery powered or plug in types.

### IN NEW CONSTRUCTION AFTER FEBRUARY 1, 2011

- CO detectors shall be powered by the electrical system and have battery back-up.
- CO detectors shall be interconnected so that one detector will activate all others.
- On floor levels with sleeping areas, the CO detector shall be placed outside of the sleeping area but within 21' of the door to any sleeping area and within the exit path from the sleeping area.
- On floor levels without sleeping areas, the CO detector shall be placed in a common area of each floor level.

## COMMERCIAL & MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES (THREE UNITS OR GREATER)

- CO detectors shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- CO detectors shall be installed in all of the following areas:
  - In basements if the basement has a fuel burning appliance.
  - Within 15' of each sleeping area of a unit that has a fuel burning appliance.
  - Within 15' of each sleeping area of a unit that is immediately adjacent to a unit that has a fuel burning appliance.
  - In each hallway leading from a unit with a fuel burning appliance – within 75' of the unit.
  - In each room that has a fuel burning appliance and does not have a sleeping area, the CO detector shall be within 75' of the fuel burning appliance.
- Buildings constructed prior to October 1, 2008, may use battery powered or plug in type CO detectors.
- Buildings constructed after October 1, 2008, shall have CO detectors that are hard wired into the building electrical system and equipped with battery backup. Detectors shall be interconnected so that one detector will activate all others.