



# CARBON MONOXIDE THE INVISIBLE KILLER

## CARBON MONOXIDE

IS PRODUCED BY THE INCOMPLETE BURNING OF VARIOUS FUELS (COAL, WOOD, CHARCOAL, OIL, KEROSENE, PROPANE, NATURAL GAS) AND IS UNDETECTABLE TO THE HUMAN SENSES.

BETWEEN 1999 - 2010

# 5,149 DEATHS

OCCURRED IN THE U.S. FROM ACCIDENTAL CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

### CO POISONING

AFFECTS MORE MEN THAN WOMEN

AN AVERAGE OF **430** DEATHS A YEAR

MEN AND WOMEN

# 65+ YEARS

ARE MORE AT RISK OF DEATH

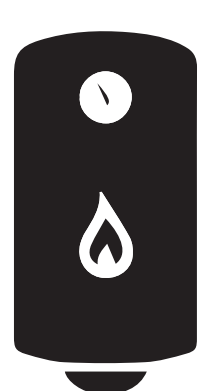


## LEADING CAUSES OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

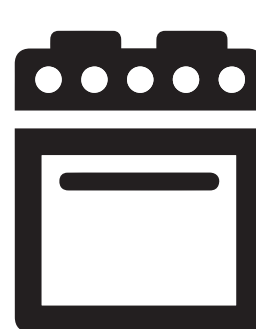
FAULTY, IMPROPERLY USED OR INCORRECTLY VENTED FUEL-BURNING APPLIANCES



FURNACES



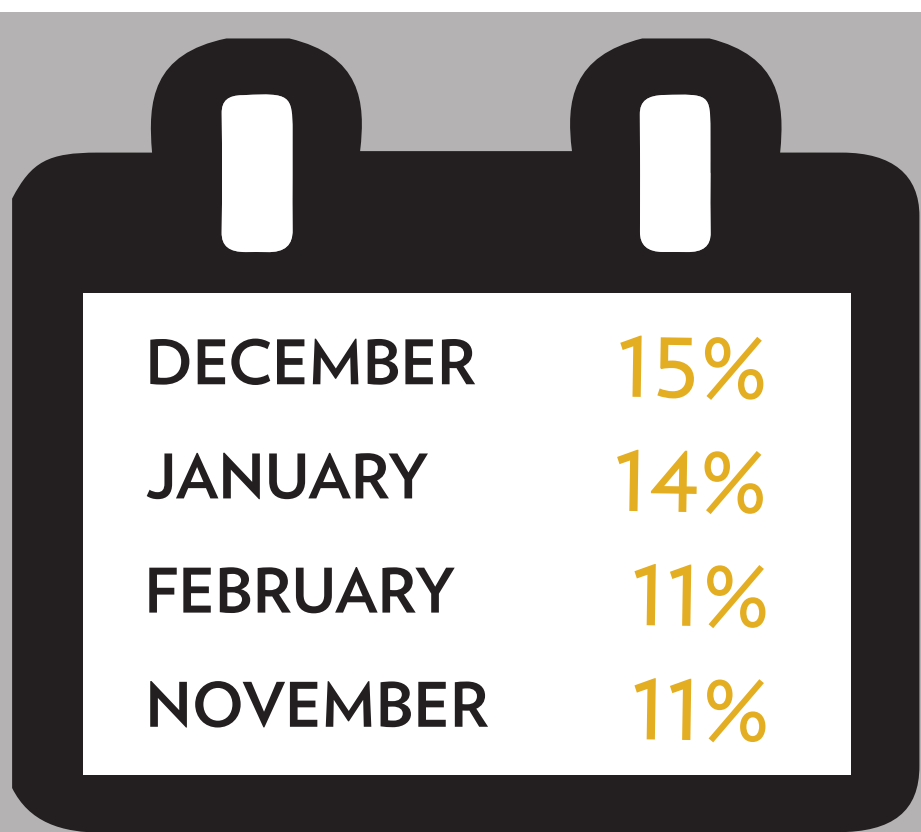
WATER HEATERS



STOVES



FIREPLACES



### CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

OCCURS MORE OFTEN DURING WINTER MONTHS

## KNOW THE SYMPTOMS

HEALTH EFFECTS OF CO DEPEND ON THE CO CONCENTRATION AND LENGTH OF EXPOSURE, AS WELL AS EACH INDIVIDUAL'S HEALTH CONDITION.

### EARLY SYMPTOMS

FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS | HEADACHE | FATIGUE | NAUSEA | SHORTNESS OF BREATH

### HIGH-LEVEL SYMPTOMS

MENTAL CONFUSION | VOMITING | LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS  
LOSS OF MUSCULAR COORDINATION | DEATH



1 IN 10 HOMES ARE PROTECTED BY A WORKING CO ALARM



## HOW CAN YOU KEEP YOURSELF SAFE?

- Have a working and properly installed CO alarm with backup battery in hallways near sleeping areas.
- Never ignore CO alarm. Do not try to find the source. Immediately move outside and call 911.
- Test alarms and replace batteries yearly.
- Have all fuel burning home heating systems inspected and serviced annually.
- Never operate portable gas-powered generator in or near an enclosed space.
- Never use charcoal grill in or near a house or garage.
- Never use gas range or oven to heat a home or business.
- Never start your car in an enclosed space, such as an attached garage.