

HOME TIPS: Carbon Monoxide



(example only)

Happy New Year Everyone! Most of you will remember that my Home Inspection Report includes a reminder to purchase and install a Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detector in the home if one is not presently installed. There have been several poisonings and deaths caused by CO across Canada, recently. Therefore, I want to remind everyone of the importance of having a CO detector installed in your home.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is also known as the “Silent Killer”, as CO is colorless, tasteless and odourless, which makes it nearly impossible to detect. CO is the leading cause of fatal poisonings in North America. Exposure to high concentrations can cause death in just a few minutes. Symptoms Include:

Low Concentrations - shortage of breath on moderate exertion; slight headache; nausea; dizziness.

Higher Concentrations - severe headache; mental confusion, dizziness; impairment of vision and hearing; collapse or fainting on exertion.

Extreme Concentrations - unconsciousness, coma; death.

Carbon Monoxide is a product of incomplete combustion. Sources include automobile exhaust, propane or natural gas appliances such as furnaces and water heaters, fireplaces, anything involving fire. It is very important to have your heating systems cleaned, tuned and serviced annually, or at the very least every two years, by qualified, experienced professionals. Wood burning fireplaces require flue or chimney sweeping periodically (depending on how often the fireplace is used).

I strongly urge you to copy and paste the following link into your web browser, and take just a few minutes to read a very good article about Carbon Monoxide, which has been produced by the CMHC.

http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/co/maho/yohoyohe/inaiqu/inaiqu_002.cfm

The price of a Carbon Monoxide Detector is about \$40.00 and up, and is really an inexpensive way to help safeguard the health of you and your family, and to ensure that 2008 remains a “Happy New Year”.

If you do not wish to receive anymore “HOME TIPS” please reply with **UNSUBSCRIBE** in the subject field.