



Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a poisonous gas that cannot be seen or smelled. It is produced by fuel burning appliances, fireplaces and vehicles. If appliances that burn fuel are maintained and used properly, the amount of CO produced is usually not hazardous.

- The most common causes of CO poisoning are the indoor use of charcoal or gas grills and generators in garages or near air intakes
- Symptoms of poisoning include headache, nausea, dizziness, weakness, confusion, light-headedness, shortness of breath
- High levels of CO can cause death in a few minutes
- Low levels can poison a person over a long period of time
- If your CO alarm sounds move outdoors or to a fresh air location, then call 9-1-1
- To prevent CO poisoning:
 - Never burn charcoal or use a barbecue inside your home
 - Never use a gas oven to heat your home
 - Never sleep while using an unvented gas or kerosene heater
 - Never idle a car in an attached garage
 - Make sure chimneys and flues are not blocked
- CO alarms are required in all new and existing apartments and rental homes
- The owner must provide the alarm and the renter maintains it
- CO alarms are required outside of each bedroom with at least one alarm for each floor
- Units are either battery powered or plug-in to an outlet with a battery backup
- Alarms do not need to be mounted on the ceiling unless you purchase a combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarm (these must be mounted on the ceiling or high on the wall)

