

Did You Know...

Carbon Monoxide can be an invisible killer.

Carbon monoxide (chemical abbreviation: CO) is a highly poisonous, colourless gas that you cannot see or smell. You need a gas detector to warn you of the hazard. CO interferes with your body's ability to use oxygen.

What are common sources?

- Engine exhaust. Gasoline, propane and diesel engines all release CO
- Fuel-fired heating devices

Where can CO accumulate?

In any enclosed or poorly-ventilated space where an engine is running, such as:

- Basements, or parts of buildings under construction
- Tarped-in areas of houses or buildings
- Garages or warehouses
- Areas where a fuel-fired heater is being used
- Unventilated cabs or parked vehicles
- Vehicles with faulty exhaust or muffler systems

What can I do?

1. Eliminate sources of CO, if possible
2. Operate engines outdoors, if possible. For example, welding machines and generators can be left outside while the leads run into the building
3. Ensure adequate ventilation
4. Have a written policy for controlling and monitoring CO

Vehicles and Equipment Outdoors

Ensure that the air intake and fuel systems are working correctly. Inspect all vehicles and equipment regularly for leaking exhaust manifolds or connections

Don't leave a machine engine running in an enclosed space unless ventilation or exhaust system is available and working properly.

Operating Equipment Indoors

Choose electric rather than fuel-powered where possible

Vent exhaust outside. Use exhaust fans or hoses

Make sure area is well ventilated.

Monitor CO levels continuously with a gas monitor

Heaters

When using a heater, ensure that it is in a well-ventilated area.

You should have a gas detector.

Choose an indirect-fired heater instead of direct-fired heater when you want to heat an enclosed space.

Signs and Symptoms of CO Poisoning

- Shortage of breath on moderate exertion
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Fatigue or drowsiness
- Impaired vision

Continued exposure leads to loss of consciousness

**At the first indication of symptoms, get to fresh air.
With severe exposure, seek medical attention!**



Nobody Gets Hurt, Today or Tomorrow