

# Fire and Carbon Monoxide Safety Tips

Are You Protected?

**Fire Safety** 

3 in every 5 home fire deaths resulted from homes with non working smoke

Fire is a dangerous threat to our homes. One way to help protect ourselves against fire is smoke alarms. Smoke alarms help alert us if there is a fire.

# **Common Causes of Fire**

- Kitchen fires from unattended cooking
- · Heating fires from neglecting to clean equipment
- Smoking materials
- Home electrical (lighting, washers, dryers, fans, space heaters, and heating/air conditioning units)
- Candles

### **Smoke Alarms**

It is important to install smoke alarms on every level of the home, including the basement. Smoke alarms should also be installed in every bedroom and outside every sleeping area. Larger homes need additional smoke alarms for extra protection. It is also important to use interconnected smoke alarms. Then, when one alarm sounds, all of the smoke alarms will sound.

There are two types of smoke alarms. Ionization smoke alarms notify us quickly about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms help notify us quickly about smoldering fires. For our safety, the NFPA recommends having both types of alarms in our homes.

# Tips for Fire Planning, Protection, and Prevention

- Remember to test smoke alarms monthly
- Remember to change the alarms batteries every six months
- Plan and practice your home escape route
- If your smoke alarm sounds, evacuate immediately. Once you have moved to fresh air, call 911 and remain outside.



# Carbon **Monoxide Safety**

Carbon Monoxide causes 450 deaths and 20,000 emergency room visits annually in the US.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a poisonous gas. It is difficult to detect because it is invisible, odorless, and tasteless. In our homes, the major sources of carbon monoxide are heating and cooking appliances that burn fuel.

## **Common Sources of Carbon Monoxide**



Furnaces or boilers

Water heaters



Gas stoves &



ovens



Power generators



**Fireplaces** 



Motor vehicles



Clothes dryers



Power tools &

lawn equipment

# **Carbon Monoxide Alarms**

It is important to install CO alarms in our homes. CO alarms should be installed on every level, including the basement and outside of sleeping areas. If the CO alarm sounds, evacuate the home immediately and move to fresh air. Call 911 and remain outside until help arrives and the home is properly inspected.

# **Tips for Preventing Carbon Monoxide Poisoning**

- Test CO alarms monthly
- Replace CO alarms according to the manufacturer's instructions
- Service furnaces, chimneys, and water heaters annually
- When warming your vehicle in the winter, move it out of the garage. It is dangerous to leave a fueled engine running indoors (even if the garage door is open).
- Never use a generator indoors, only in well-ventilated areas
- Only use gas or charcoal grills outside

Source: National Fire Protection



# Are You Protected?

For more information visit www.firstalert.com