

## **Carbon Monoxide Safety – Tip Sheet**

- **The Fire Code was amended recently to make it a violation to disable a smoke or carbon monoxide alarm whether intentional or not. Local fire departments enforce the Fire Code and may maintain statistics on the number of charges laid.**
- **A number of deaths have occurred needlessly due to absent or disabled devices and the Fire Marshal is promoting a zero tolerance approach where fire departments become aware of the violation. Fines for such violations have also been increased and individuals or corporations can be issued tickets or face more substantial charges under the Provincial Offences Act.**
- **Remember that you must install and maintain a working carbon monoxide alarm outside all sleeping areas of your home if you have a fuel-burning appliance, a wood or gas fireplace, or an attached garage. For added protection, install a CO alarm on every storey of your home.**
- **Prevent the build-up of carbon monoxide in your home - get all fuel-burning appliances inspected every year by a certified contractor. Find a contractor near you at [COsafety.ca](http://COsafety.ca).**

### **What to do if the CO Alarm Sounds:**

- **Exposure to CO can cause flu-like symptoms such as headaches, nausea and dizziness, as well as confusion, drowsiness, loss of consciousness and death.**
- **If your CO alarm sounds, and you or other occupants suffer from symptoms of CO poisoning, get everyone out of the home immediately. Then call 9-1-1 or your local emergency services number from outside the building.**
- **If your CO alarm sounds, and no one is suffering from symptoms of CO poisoning, check to see if the battery needs replacing, or the alarm has reached its "end-of-life" before calling 9-1-1.**